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FREE

Crewkerne
WEEKENDER

Issue 70 January 27 2012

It's panto time in Crewkerne - Oh yes it is!

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weekender announcements

SHANNON KENNILS
2
Happy 2nd birthday. Lots of love, Mummy, Daddy and brother Cameron

'D' aka CHARLIE ELLIS HOOLE
16
16 today!!! The most awesome young man I know. Love you sunshine ~ Mum xx

LUCY MOLLY VOYSEY
born 12th January 7lb 15oz. Congratulations James, Kathryn and big sister Eleanor. Love from Nan, Grandad and family

EMMA ADAMS
40
Happy 40th birthday 1/2 /12 love from Paul Ben Matthew and all the family xxx Have a good party!

ZOE BRAUNTON-TURNER
Happy 17th birthday 21-1-12. Love Mum, Dad, Glynn, Clare and Ryan xxx

JENNA-MARIE KING
9
Happy birthday for 22nd January. Hope you had a lovely weekend baby girl. Loads of love, Mum, Dad, Ryan, Max, Scarpie and all the family xxx

KEVIN CROOK
Happy Birthday to the most wonderful Husband and Daddy! Thank you so much for everything you do for us. We love you very much :-} Banah and Eden xxxx

SOPHIE HALFORD
16
Happy 16th birthday. Love from Adam and Dan xx

ELOISE VAN DIJK
4
Happy 4th birthday. Lots of love, Issy, Mummy and Daddy

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weekender weather

Friday 27th January
Partly Cloudy
High 8°
Low -1°

Saturday 28th January
Partly Cloudy
High 8°
Low -2°

Sunday 29th January
Cloudy
High 6°
Low -2°

Monday 30th January
Partly Cloudy
High 4°
Low 0°

Tuesday 31st January
Am Clouds
PM Sun
High 4°
Low -1°

Wednesday 1st February
Partly Cloudy
High 6°
Low -1°

Thursday 2nd February
Mostly Sunny
High 6°
Low 1°

Please remember to recycle this newspaper

Website of the week

http://www.concertsinthewest.org/

About Concerts in the West

Concerts in the West is a small but energetic arts charity, which organises and promotes an annual series of high quality classical (occasionally jazz) concerts at regional venues in Somerset, Dorset and Devon.

The charity has an ethical policy that combines two key aims.

* First it supports young professional musicians (aged approximately between 18 and 32), who are embarking on their careers in music by providing them with a series of three to four localised concerts over a limited period of time. This provides them with the opportunity to practice the repertoire they will later perform at prestigious venues such as Wigmore Hall or the Southbank Centre.

* Secondly, it gives West Country residents unique – but most importantly affordable – access to an exceptional standard of international music at attractive, individual provincial venues.

How it all started

Concerts in the West was founded in 2006 by Catherine Hodgson, Festival Director of the London Handel Festival, after she moved from London to the tiny Somerset market town of Ilminster.

"A friend of mine, Peter Lansdown, invited me to put on a few concerts at the Ilminster Arts Centre. As I had only arrived in Ilminster a few months earlier and knew no-one, it seemed like a good way of meeting people," explained Catherine.

The Ilminster concerts proved a hit and soon other people wanted them. "No sooner had we planned four concerts than a friend suggested putting them on at the Marine Theatre in Lyme Regis. Then in 2007 the new Hatherleigh Community Centre in Devon wanted concerts."

Other concerts followed at Hestercombe Gardens, Sandroyd School near Salisbury and Woodroffe School in Lyme Regis.

Catherine has always placed great importance on the venues, believing strongly that their individual charm impart each concert with a unique atmosphere: "Listening to a concert at the Meeting House in Ilminster is a very relaxed affair, like sitting in an armchair at home surrounded by good friends."

Audience levels are monitored and venues are reviewed annually: "For the Devon 2012 series, The Hatherleigh Community Centre has been changed to Lower Pulworthy, a private house (generally a more popular venue), while concerts not involving a piano will be take place at Black Torrington Church, which is incredibly atmospheric."

A growing success

Since 2006 Concerts in the West has run between five and nine concert series a year. All are small in keeping with the venue sizes, but the musical content is on another scale altogether. Catherine sources only the highest calibre young musicians and singers who perform an outstanding varied repertoire of Classical and Baroque music, as well as jazz. This ensures that each series gives the audience a totally different musical experience.

"We are very fortunate that the most highly regarded young professional musicians, currently making their mark on the music scene in the UK and abroad, like to play for us and we have had a total of 103 beautiful concerts to date. The main venues are very different and so each concert has its own feel."

For information on who they are bringing to the Westcountry in 2012 visit their website.

Concerts in the West

Crewkernenewsdigest

Crewkerne | Chard | Ilminster | Villages

Sports centre back on the agenda

By Alex Alexander

THE convoluted course of Crewkerne's £850,000 flagship youth and sports scheme has taken two new twists.

As a result, the George Reynolds Centre Project - which involves an elaborate chain of demolition, redevelopment, planning, health and finance deals -this week inched nearer to realisation. Probably.

Twist One: Planners have given the green light to converting the ageing West One centre in West Street into a new multi-purpose GP surgery.

With development permission now secure, the sale of the property by the town council to Haven Health could soon be on the cards — and is set to be keenly debated at a special meeting at the town hall next Monday.

The deal stalled last year as Haven Health and the NHS became embroiled in detailed negotiations over the suitability of converting West One into a new health centre.

Under the Haven Health plan, GP Michael Osborne's practice in South Street will relocate to the redeveloped West One building and expand its activities considerably.

The money from the building's sale is earmarked for the George Reynolds sports and youth centre, which is to be built on the Henhayes recreation ground.

Peter Woodward, Dr Osborne's practice manager, welcomed news that the West One planning application had been successful.

"This is a significant and positive step in the right direction," he told the ***Weekender***, adding that he still hoped to relocate the practice by the end of this year.

He said: "The town urgently needs a second practice and the new centre is capable of accommodating four GPs and at least two nurses.

"It means competition. People will have a choice."

Twist Two: The George Reynolds project was on the agenda earlier this week during the January gathering of Crewkerne Town Council.

But detailed discussion was curtailed, with councillors instead agreeing to hold an extraordinary meeting at 6.45pm this coming Monday when they hope to push the project forward.

However, several expressed frustration with the slow progress so far, citing worries over the sale of West One, doubts about the status of Section 106 funds from Persimmon Homes, and anxiety about the timing of grants from the Football Association and the Rugby Football Union.

Councillor Ron Bond said he was "very worried", adding: "It's time to reconsider and review the situation."

Councillor Angie Singleton added: "I would support putting West One back on the market or look at developing it ourselves. We have been mucked around enough."

The public are welcome to attend this Monday's meeting.

Timely reminders on crime

CRACKING DOWN ON CRIME: PCSOs Michelle Haimes (left) and Caroline Matthews offer timely security tips to passers-by in Falkland Square

THE PCSO team covering Crewkerne and district held their first town centre surgery of 2012 with some timely advice: Make a New Year's crime-prevention resolution.

PCSOs Michelle Haimes and Caroline Matthews spent a busy couple of hours last Friday offering advice and information to dozens of passers-by in Falkland Square.

They also logged several issues of concern raised by members of the public.

One of the main leaflets handed out by the pair offered half-a-dozen top tips to householders worried about burglary and car crime.

Titled "Don't let crime spoil 2012", the leaflet set out several personal anti-crime pledges, including:

- I will lock my doors and windows, even when I'm at home indoors, using the garden, or just popping out for a few minutes.
- I will always use a door chain when I answer the door to callers, and ask for identification that I check and verify.
- I will lock my garden gates, garden shed and garage.
- I will not leave anything on view in my car, and remove all valuables.

PCSO Haimes said the start of a new year was an excellent opportunity to remind everyone to take simple security steps to protect their homes and property.

Wrong speed

MOTORISTS will soon start ignoring a new traffic-calming sign because it is flashing the wrong information, according to one worried resident.

Highways engineers installed the radar-activated sign in the 20mph zone at the eastern entrance to Crewkerne early on Monday.

But within hours it was causing consternation, not calming.

A member of the public raised the matter at the start of the January town council meeting on Monday evening.

He also warned that the sign is in the wrong place and needs to be relocated.

Speaking during the open forum session, he said: "There is a traffic speed indicator by The Roundhouse, near Mount Pleasant.

"It's right in the middle of the 20mph limit and shows only a 30mph speed, which is inappropriate."

He added that once drivers cottoned-on to the error, they would be far less likely to take any notice of it or reduce their speed.

"It needs sorting - and moving further up the road. It should be sited up by the cemetery," he urged.

Town clerk Jeanne Warner welcomed the comments and promised to raise the matter with Somerset Highways the following morning.

SLOW DOWN: Another driver receives a reminder that their car is travelling at 30mph in a 20mph zone

W news briefing

Arrest for burglary

CREWKERNE Police have charged a person with two non-dwelling burglaries and one offence of theft from a motor vehicle, with another theft from a motor vehicle being taken into consideration.

The arrest came following a series of thefts from cars in the town over a period of two weeks.

Beat Manager PC Pete Paskin said the arrest had been made possible thanks to members of the public being vigilant and reporting suspicious behaviour.

Planning applications

DEVELOPERS are seeking to convert four offices in The Barley Yard, off North Street, Crewkerne, into homes.

Applicant Boldre Estates wants to turn office numbers 1, 2, 5 and 6 into flats.

Permission is also being sought to build a detached dwelling on land at 2 Belle Vue, Silver Street, Misterton. The applicant, Ian Norris, is initially seeking outline permission.

And three planning applications were submitted last week for schemes in Merriott Parish.

They are for: Bow Mill, West Chinnock, where a Mr S Ashton is seeking a Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing residential use of all buildings on the application site.

Manor Farm, Lower Street, Merriott, where E-Tricity Ltd, wants to install a solar photovoltaic array and associated equipment with a height of 2.6m and a maximum installed capacity of 50kW.

Stable Cottage, Eggwood Hill, Merriott, where a Mr Christopher Underhill, is seeking permission for "internal and external alterations".

Health survey

PATIENTS at Crewkerne's main health surgery in Middle Path are being asked to take part in a satisfaction survey.

The eight-point questionnaire — titled "Appointments Survey Access Plan" — is being carried out "to help our practice understand how our appointment system can be improved".

Among the questions, patients are asked:

- How easy was it to get an appointment for the time and day you wanted?
- Are you happy for your doctor to review your request for a same-day appointment by telephone?
- Would you prefer more appointments to be available on the same day of booking?
- How helpful would you find it to be able to book a telephone consultation with your own doctor more easily?
- How useful do you find being able to book appointments with your GP up to two months in advance?
- Do you know which days of the week your doctor is available?

A member of the surgery team said: "We occasionally have patient-surveys as the feedback helps us to keep improving."

Budget is £3 less!

COUNCIL Tax-payers in Crewkerne will fork out slightly less for services carried out by the town council in the coming financial year.

Members this week formally approved the town's precept for 2012/13 at £303,093 — a £3 reduction in the current year's budget!

Welcoming the new precept, County Councillor John Dyke told his town council colleagues: "That will result in a modest decrease per household, because there are more houses than last year."

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Very funny, just don't sit in the front row!

PANTOMIME REVIEW
By Marion Draper

URGENT warning to the ladies of Merriott Women's Institute: Avoid the annual panto in Crewkerne Town Hall this weekend, unless you've got a robust sense of humour. Reason: You're the butt of some great gags in the rip-roaring CUDOS production of Sleeping Beauty.

For example: You, dear ladies, are wickedly lampooned as swamp-dwelling, man-eating, fire-breathing monsters.

"Oh no we're not." Oh yes you are!

Thinking about this even further… perhaps you'd better stay away if you live in any of the outlying villages around Crewkerne. The wit is rapid-fire, merciless, and VERY funny. Top marks to the scriptwriters!

While I'm still in "warning mode", let me add this: If you're a man, do NOT under any circumstances sit in the front row. 'Cos, if you do, you're asking for BIG trouble…

Anyone male who ventures into the front-row danger zone risks being picked-on by the most formidable Panto Dame this side of the mighty River Parrett.

I don't know what Panto Dames are like on the other side, but Nurse Dottie Dettol is not someone with whom you'd want to (a) entrust with a baby; (b) go on a blind date; or (c) encounter when pinned into a seat in the front row of the town hall during what you naively thought would be just another panto.

My encounter with Nurse Dottie during this week's dress rehearsals was character-forming, to say the least.

I'm just glad there wasn't a house full of guffawing panto-goers enjoying the sight of me squirming as Nurse Dottie plied me with "medicine", urged me to fill a "specimen bottle", offered advice about my nits, threatened me with an alarmingly large syringe, buffeted me with her SUBSTANTIAL bosom, and then publicly proposed to me from the stage.

Somehow, I managed to escape mostly untraumatised. But, it was a close shave and I may yet need counselling (does anyone out there offer post-panto stress therapy? Merriott WI, perhaps?)

Strangely, everyone else seemed to enjoy my discomfiture. I can't think why… afterall, everyone loves the press, don't they?!

Anyway, back to Sleeping Beauty.

The music was foot-tapping; the scenery and lighting were imaginative; and there were some exceptionally talented singing, dancing and panto routines.

Special mention must go to some particularly notable members of the cast.

First, eight-year-old Makenzie Peters, the youngest performer, who shone delightfully as Blue Fairy with a word-perfect performance.

Others tripped over a couple of lines here and there. But not Blue Fairy! A BAFTA-nomination performance (Mum: You explain…).

Next, and in no particular order, were superb am-dram performances by Bad Witch Hazel (Heidi Scott), Muddles (Amanda Perry), Carrie (Alex McCallum), Princess Rose (Vikki Rolley), and — I hate to admit this — the aforementioned Nurse Dottie Dettol (Martin Singleton) who asked for my hand in marriage (Answer: NO WAY!).

But it was, as the prosecution often nowadays alleges, a joint enterprise.

And, all together, the Crewkerne United Dramatic and Operatic Society is putting on a very entertaining winter panto.

Grab a seat while you can, even in the front row (if you're man enough).

• Sleeping Beauty is showing at Crewkerne Town Hall tonight (Friday) at 7.30pm and tomorrow (Saturday) at 2.30pm and 7.30pm.

Tickets are priced at £7 (£6 concessions). More details on 01460 74380.

■ THE FAIRIES (from left) were Blue Fairy (Makenzie Peters), Orange Fairy (Phoebe Edgington), Yellow Fairy (Kate Askew), Green Fairy (Rosa Atkinson), Pink Fairy (Fiona Edgington), Red Fairy (Jackie Dyer), and Good Fairy Lilac (Leonie Dash)

■ KING CACTUS and his Queen Marigold (Helen Wickens)

■ HAPPY EVER AFTER… The palace celebrates the revival of Princess Rose

More pantomime photos next week

■ DRESSED TO THRILL: Potty Nurse Dottie takes a final bow

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Mains
Flat Filled Mushroom with Creamed Spinach, Goats Cheese &
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Here we come A-Wassailing

by Alex Alexander

HEAR YE, HEAR YE: Mike Farley reads the Gloucester Wassail poem to the party

KEEPING WARM: Crowds gathered around the bonfire

WHAT A SHOW: The Mummers play in full swing

ANY evil spirits lurking in the Barrington Court apple orchard have been well and truly put to flight for another year.

They were seen-off in traditional style during the now annual Wassail party, which took place last week.

More than 100 guests joined the revelry, with folk music, singing, drama, and plenty of cider-swigging.

This year's Wassail took place with a starry sky overhead and frost underfoot.

But it began with a warm welcome from Barrington's appropriately-named Visitor Services Manager, Matthew Applegate.

He told the party-goers: "Because we started making our own cider here in 2006, we felt it was only right and proper to have a Wassail and ward off the evil spirits for the coming year.

"We are celebrating what these trees here have provided us — very good cider!

"So we want to bless the Big Apple Tree Man and ward off the evil spirits so that we get another good crop of apples!"

He also paid tribute to former Barrington Court team member Helen McDonald, whose idea it was to start making cider again.

He said: "Previously, all the apples used to just lay on the ground.

"But Helen got everyone galvanised and, without her, we wouldn't be here tonight."

Regular Wassailer Dick Stephens, of the Glastonbury Male Voice Choir, then explained the history and meaning of the event before leading those present in a loud rendition of the traditional song "Here we come A-Wassailing".

The fun continued with a folk play by the Langford Mummers in which the Black Knight tragically bumped-off St George with a sword through the heart.

Fortunately, the miraculous interventions of a drunken cider sot, a quack Italian doctor, St George's mum, and some other women of dubious repute managed to put him back on his feet and able to vanquish the Black Knight — to the obvious disappointment of red-horned old Nick, who had been waiting to catch St George's soul in a rusty old saucepan.

With St George restored and vindicated, the party-goers gathered round for the lighting of a giant orchard bonfire before witnessing the blessing of the orchard's oldest inhabitant, the Big Apple Tree Man.

MUMMERS BOYS AND GIRLS: Members of the Langford Mummers performed the tale of St George and the Black Knight

The ceremony involved a spoken blessing, the pouring of cider round the tree roots, and the attaching of four pieces of cider-soaked toast to the branches — food to encourage insect-eating birds into the orchard.

The ceremony closed with a dozen blasts of shotguns through the upper branches to send any remaining evil spirits on their way.

"Wassail" is derived from an Old Norse phrase meaning "be in health".

Barrington Court has ten acres of orchard with more than 100 different varieties of apple tree.

There is estimated to be more than 550 apple trees in total and last year Barrington Court produced 3,000 litres of cider.

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■ DISTINGUISHED SERVICE: The collection of Second World War medals earned by former town council Chairman Tony Dowse-Brenan

Chairman's medals

A COLLECTION of Second World War campaign medals awarded to former Crewkerne Town Council Chairman Tony Dowse-Brenan went under the hammer in Bristol recently.

Specialist military memorabilia auctioneers Dreweatts described the items as: "A Second World War group of six to Captain AEF Dowse-Brenan, Royal Artillery, 1939-1945 Star, Africa Star, Italy Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-45, General Service Medal 1918-1962, one clasp, Palestine 1945-48, (Capt AEF Dowse-Brenan RA), mounted for wearing, together with two framed regimental 'caricatures', dated 1962 by 'Bos'.

"Lt Col Dowse-Brenan came from fighting Irish stock, joining first the Ayrshire Yeomanry, serving on the staff during the Second World War, then in Palestine.

"He also served with the Territorial Army, becoming Colonel of the Queen's Own Dorset and West Somerset Yeomanry."

The medals and regimental caricature fetched £130 and went to an undisclosed buyer.

GOT A NEWS STORY?
Please phone Marion Draper on 07771 641506 or Alex Alexander on 07710 794321 (Crewkerne)

Free saplings offer to local organisations

WORTHY causes from Chard Crewkerne and Ilminster are once again being invited to contact Monkton Elm Garden & Pet Centre at Monkton Heathfield, near Taunton, which is offering between 50 and 100 saplings to schools, charities, village organisations and community groups that would like them.

Andrew Pitman, plant manager at the family-run garden centre, explained: "To tie in with the start of the New Year and our 30th anniversary, we've got 2,012 small sapling trees to give to any worthy causes that would like them for projects they are running this year.

"We operated similar schemes in 2010 and 2011 that were incredibly successful, so once again we're inviting anyone who feels that their school, charity or group is deserving of the saplings to get in touch.

"We do have a limited number of trees and are allocating them on a first come, first served basis so we urge people to submit their requests as soon as possible. The closing date for requests is 5pm on Friday, February 24th."

The garden centre will be giving away groups of between 50 and 100 small saplings, known as whips. The trees are indigenous British varieties.

Mr Pitman added: "As the saplings are fairly small they are ideal for areas and projects where they can be planted together in groups of around 50 or 100. They would be perfect for hedging or creating small woodland areas."

Worthy causes that apply for the trees must write in to Andrew at the garden centre giving details of their project and why they think they deserve to receive a group of saplings.

Andrew continued: "We want to help not-for-profit organisations and worthy causes add a little bit of green to their lives. Requests from commercial bodies will not be considered.

"This is a great opportunity for communities all over Somerset to be presented with some free trees so we hope as many people as possible submit requests."

The successful applicants will be invited to come and collect their trees from the garden centre at a mutually convenient time. By entering the competition, the winner or winners have agreed to take part in publicity.

Requests for the saplings should be posted to: Andrew Pitman, Plant Manager, Monkton Elm Garden & Pet Centre, Monkton Heathfield, Taunton, TA2 8QN.

'Frank's' change of life

■ MOUTHWATERING: Rikki Newby (right) pops back to Frank's for his second tasty snack of the day

THE newest business in Crewkerne town centre got off to a sizzling start… serving bacon sandwiches and a host of other tasty "grab and go" snacks and drinks.

Frank's Sandwich Bar is a new venture by accountant "Frank" (Mark) Saunders — and he is already getting repeat business from satisfied customers, such as removals man Rikki Newby, who is now a regular.

The new outlet is on the corner of Market Square in the premises previously occupied by Marette's takeaway, which closed late last year.

Frank, 41, said: "I've been an accountant for more than 20 years and I was working as a financial controller for a publisher in Taunton.

"My world was beige and boring and I was waiting to escape.

"I really wasn't passionate about accountancy. But I was about food and people, and I really wanted to get into catering!

"I used to help out occasionally at a friend's fishcake stall in Weymouth, and I loved it.

"I used to come in here — Marette's — for a bacon sandwich and a coffee and the owner said she was closing in November.

"Something just clicked in my head. I thought I could do something different with fresh, daily homemade soups, pasta pots, wraps, baguettes, jackets, genuine Cornish pasties from Cornwall, and hot drinks."

Eventually, Frank is hoping to take on extra staff and expand the business with delivered food and outside catering.

He added: "My friends said it was a brave move walking away from a steady job.

"But, I knew that if I didn't do it now, I'd never do it."

Frank's mum, Peggy Saunders, who is helping get the business up and running for the first few weeks, said her son had definitely made the right move.

"I'm really proud of him. And he's a lot happier now," she said.

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Make and munch fun with mum

by Marion Draper

ONCE a month at Crowshute House in Chard, young families are spending time preparing, cooking and eating healthy food together at free Make and Munch sessions thanks to the charity Health and Local Food for Families.

There are also sessions held in Axminster and Honiton.

HALFF is a registered charity set up to help people cook delicious healthy food for themselves and their children and to promote the use of local food.

Healthy eating

It aims to encourage healthy eating from weaning age onwards, to encourage good practise and avoid the risk of obesity.

The community sessions provide parents and carers with cooking demonstrations, hands-on cooking skills, healthy eating information, tips on how to overcome problems, recipes, and a chance to sit and eat lunch with friends.

Under the guidance of nutritionist Becky Varley and cook Paula Herbert, the Chard families and their little ones enjoy chopping vegetables together and making foods such as lasagne, made with plenty of fresh vegetables, salad and pancakes with fruit puree.

Jill Frances, a family officer from the Methodist Church, also attends with toys and drawing equipment for the children to enjoy.

Nichola Chudley who attends with her four-month-old daughter Anna, said she was learning a lot as her husband was the main cook in the house and now that Anna was older, she wanted to start baking with her.

Libby Poxon with eight-month-old Wesley was attending for the first time this month and had heard about the sessions from a leaflet she picked up at Clare House.

She said: "I can cook but when it comes to baby food, I wanted to get more confident with new recipe ideas."

Samantha Brannighan and Tabitha have been attending the Make and Munch sessions for a year after being told about it by their health visitor.

She said: "I always cook but it's somewhere to take the babies and get advice on things that were easy for her when I started weaning.

New ideas

"It's a great way to get out and meet people. I am back to work part time now but when I had gone from working full time to being at home alone, it was a whole new world.

"Tabitha likes pasta and eats pretty much anything, but without new ideas you tend to stick to the same things. It's good for the children to sit at a table together and eat in a social group as well."

Liz Thresher with daughter Rubie said: "It's a great group. I'm surprised not more people come as it is free.

"People moan there is nowhere to go, just do it, they get a free lunch as well.

"We do have dads that come here too. I cook all the time, I love to cook but it does give you different ideas, like making fruit puree to go on porridge and pancakes, I never would have thought to do that and it's delicious."

This was the third session for Jasmine Pavey and her second child, nine-month-old Russell.

She said: "I'm quite good at cooking but I am still learning and want to be healthy for them. I tend to make things in bulk and freeze them. I don't want Russell to be fussy, he likes bakes like broccoli and cauliflower cheese."

Julie Philip had come to Make and Munch with her first son Daniel who is nearly four and now has 11-week-old Ben. She said it was the only group they came to as a family and had observed that Daniel, who was fussy on fruit and vegetables, would often eat foods at the group that he wouldnít at home.

She added that he was very fond of Jill and he never used to sit at the table but would run around all the time, now he sat with the others and ate nicely.

You can find out more about local sessions by calling 01297 631782 and you can donate to the charity at www.localgiving.com/charity/halff.

FLIPPING GOOD FUN: Rubie and mum Liz Thresher, making pancakes

SOCIAL DINING: Everyone sits down to eat together

HAPPY MUNCHING: Anna samples the lasagne

TOP LEFT: Libby Poxon and Wesley watch Paula Herbert layer the lasagne; Tabitha Brannigan takes a big mouthful for mum Samantha and Rubie and mum Liz Thresher

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Villagers fear losing their bus service

By Marion Draper

MANY residents of Merriott and Hinton St George and Seavington are living in fear of isolation at the announcement that they may be about to lose their vital bus service which links them to Crewkerne, Ilminster and South Petherton.

Last Friday David Laws MP met with locals and councillors to receive a petition and hear their complaints against bus service cuts being imposed by Somerset County Council.

Many villagers had not even known about the proposed cut until regular bus user Mary Dalton put a sign on the noticeboard after she read the notice on the bus. Mary, who suffers with ME, relies on the service and was shocked to see the notice, which stated people had until January 13th to submit comments. She immediately posted petitions around the village and took one on the bus with her. She said: "I would be completely housebound without the bus service, I use it to shop in Ilminster because the Co-op here is expensive and very limited and I need it to get to the doctors. I am terrified of becoming a prisoner in my own home."

Fellow villager Carol Palmer was also very worried. She said: "I am a widow and pensioner on my own and I volunteer in the Red Cross shop in Crewkerne three mornings a week. It keeps me sane, I don't know what I'd do if they take the bus away. It's too far to walk and taxis are too expensive, I use the bus most days."

Residents Edward and Kay Robinson were supporting the petition, even though they seldom use the service at present. They commented: "You have got to think ahead, we are still driving at the moment but there will come a time when we have to give up the car and there are many retired people in our position. As you get older you rely on these things, suddenly we are vulnerable.

"We only found out about it because someone put a notice up, there was nothing from the council."

Villager Wendy Brown was incensed. She said: "There has always been a bus service in Merriott, it's the rich looking after the rich and the people who made this country are being forgotten. How would you like to sit in your house day in day out? I use it every day to get to Crewkerne, I would be isolated in my own home.

Mr Laws called on Somerset County Council to secure the future of school bus transport serving the village of Merriott. He said cuts to this service would mean working parents who were unable to take children to school themselves facing the daunting prospect of them walking along unsafe, busy roads to get to school.

The council previously tried to axe free transport in 2011, but withdrew the proposal after opposition residents backed by Mr Laws and Councillor Paul Maxwell.

■ SAVE OUR BUSES: Merriott villagers, councillors and MP David Laws with the petition

Reprieve for Merriott school bus

As the Weekender went to press this week David Laws, MP for Yeovil Constituency, welcomed a policy reversal by Somerset County Council, which decided to maintain bus transport for the school children of Merriott.

Written confirmation was given by the county council that the route will continue to be deemed "unsafe", thereby obliging the council to continue to provide arrangements to get children to school safely, rather than axe the bus service as it had been considering.

Commenting, Mr Laws said: "Last year the county council came up with a bizarre plan that would have had young children walking down narrow country lanes and then down a busy A-road - in both cases without any pavements. Then, more recently, there were plans to get children to use another route which was judged too dangerous to walk years ago, when it was far less busy than it is today.

"There has never been a good, safe, case for changing the rules, and I hope the Conservatives at County Hall have finally accepted this. I congratulate the local councillor Paul Maxwell, for all his hard work to protect the service."

"Now that the council has seen the light on this issue, I'll be keeping up the pressure to make them change course on proposed cuts to other bus services in our area."

Library u-turn proves costly for council budget

THE COURT case that caused the u-turn by Somerset County Council over the closure of libraries has turned out to be a costly affair.

The plan, that was to have saved county council funds, has now resulted in the legal costs for the Judicial Review of nearly £70,000.

The council had proposed to make savings of £1.35m by reducing opening hours and mobile libraries, and ending funding for 11 smaller libraries, offering them to their local communities to run. The proposals had been drawn up as the council set about making £75 million in savings over a three year period.

At the High Court in November last year, a Judicial Review found the council's decisions to make changes to the library service to be unlawful because of a failure to comply with the public sector equalities duties. The judgment directed the council to reinstate any services that had been reduced or stopped.

The councilís legal costs for the Judicial Review were £24,573.38 for internal solicitorsí fees, £44,034.08 for external counsels' fees and £135 for court fees; a total of £68,742.46. Other associated costs were travel and accommodation for people attending legal hearings which totalled £2,590.78.

Somerset County Council has been ordered to pay the other sideís legal costs but has not yet been informed how much this will be.

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Bringing the classics to a local audience

By Marion Draper

FOR Catherine Hodgson a move to Ilminster in 2004 brought a whole other string to her musical bow, founding a new charity which brings top class musicians with a broad spectrum of classical and baroque music, to small venues the area.

Already the director of the London Handel Festival for the previous 12 years, a chance encounter at the Meeting House Arts Centre led to her founding Concerts in the West in 2006, which covers Devon Dorset and Somerset.

In a whirlwind move, Catherine had to get her office set up within a week in order to keep going with her busy job, which involves intense advance planning and organisation.

She said: "I Googled office space and found the premises in Ditton Street, then I met the owner Michael Hicks and it all happened very quickly. The only reason I can run the festival from here is thanks to computers. I didn't know a soul and was having a quiet coffee in the Meeting House cafe one day when I met Peter Landsdown and he said, 'how about some concerts for the Meeting House?'

"I did four in the first year, then someone said why not take them to Lyme Regis. It has grown and changed over the years, the venues in Dorset have changed and I have moved them to Bridport. Lyme is lovely but it's difficult to get people in Lyme.

The Meeting House is the best venue, it's gorgeous, perfect for chamber music - the musicians love the acoustics and the intimacy of it - we put the chairs round in a circle, it's lovely."

A bookbinder by trade, Catherine had needed another income and went to work at the academy of St Martins in the Field. While at the college, she met the musical director who started the Handel festival. Not really musical herself, she knew nothing about the composer or organising concerts but learned along the way and when he was unable to continue, she stepped in as festival director. Her new musical director, Laurence Cummings has become a patron of Concerts in the West.

The London festival is baroque, with historically informed performances as close to the original as possible but Catherine tries to make the concerts in the West Country a cross section of historical and new pieces, encouraging young but highly accomplished musicians to bring London sounds at local prices.

She continued: "I don't play safe, I'm all for encouraging a new and interesting programme, not just your bog standard Mozart and Beethoven and like to put a googly into the mix. I usually put a jazz concert in the middle of the programme and one year I had a fantastic percussion group that was the worst sold but the most talked about.

"We have a core of people who come regularly and know they are coming to something good, even if it is unfamiliar. It would be nice to get a younger audience too, I went to Greenfylde School with a young opera singer once and I don't think the children will ever forget it.

■ CONCERTS FOR ALL: Catherine Hodgson founder of Concerts in the West

"I admire the piano, so always have a piano recital in the series. All my life I had music around me, my mother used to take me to the Royal Concert Hall but I am one of the few non-musicians administering concerts in this way, mostly it is people who have trained in music. Musicians are very good employees, because they are very disciplined and hard working.

"I work long hours, in the morning and late at night to get bookings organised in advance and design the programmes for printing. I want to keep the concerts at a reasonable price down here but will not let performers down. If I have promised them a fee that's what they get, regardless of ticket sales and I have had to supplement from my own pocket more than once. I will not compromise on the quality.

"The series has a bigger name in the industry than local people realise, Peter helped me get charitable status for Concerts in the West which we got last December but I have no time for fundraising and have thankfully just found a local volunteer to help me.

"I absolutely love Somerset and now when I do go to London, it's absolute bliss coming back, because I work at night a lot I have become a lady who lunches and often go to the Meeting House Café, to sit among the art, it is a wonderful place and I have made many new friends."

Donations to Concerts in the West are welcome and offers of beds for performers who have often come from overseas and are stopping off on tour, are always welcome to help keep their costs down. For more information or to donate contact Concerts in the West, Horton House, 8 Ditton Street Ilminster TA19 OBQ, telephone 01460 53500.

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MOTHER of three Amy Carpenter enjoys her bit of "me time" while doing part time hours in the gift shop Something Special at the George Precinct in Crewkerne.

An Ilminster girl, Amy married at 19 and moved to Crewkerne 15 years ago where she lives with husband Jamie, a plumbing and heating engineer, and their two sons and a daughter.

After going to Castle School in Taunton she followed her artistic soul, and studied art at Yeovil College where she particularly enjoyed textiles.

She worked at a florist shop in Chard before thaving children and has kept her hand in with a little upholstery here and there whilst working hard as a mum. Now the children are all school age Amy finds an outlet for her love of all things decorative in her work at the shop, where she is surrounded by cards and gifts of all kinds.

● WHAT do you like most about Something Special?
The hours work around my family and I love all the nice pretty things. It's hard not to spend all my wages in the shop! I worked here under the previous owners before they retired and still get some regular customers coming in which is nice, it gets me out of the house and I get to talk to adults.

● WHAT do you like about Crewkerne?
I have seen a lot of positive changes since I moved here - the night club was here then.

There are a lot more activities for children out of school now, with the sports halls and Happy Valley recreation area and the youth clubs.

I love the community spirit, especially at the Christmas lights when everyone comes out to support it.

● DID you use your art training after college?
Well I did get married young, I have done bits of furniture in between, and I took a home course for interior design, that's why it's nice working in here. We are gradually getting in more bits for the home.

● DO you have any unfulfilled ambitions?
I'd like to do more travelling one day. We took the kids to Euro Disney last year but I'd love to travel anywhere and everywhere, especially India. My sister and some friends have been there and it sounds amazing.

● WHO would you most like to meet?
That's quite a tough one. I do like the singer Bruno Mars, I think he's quite handsome.

● WHAT three things would you like on your desert island?
Well if I couldn't have my family, I would want a photograph of them and I am diabetic so I would have to have a supply of insulin, and a pen and paper.

I think it's a shame that people don't handwrite as much, I'm a bit of a technophobe, we only just got a computer and that was because the kids need it for school.

● DO you have any hobbies?
The house is a constant project, and I love doing it, and I love socialising with my friends any chance I get.

Mostly my social life mainly revolves around the children, what with Brownies, Beavers, swimming and rugby, which is great because they get to meet children they don't necessarily go to school with.

● WHAT would you do with a huge lottery win?
I'd pay off the mortgage and help family and friends then go on a holiday of a lifetime, perhaps a separate one to India for just me and my husband and then somewhere for the kids and everyone else.

● IF you could time travel where would you go?
I'd like to go back and spend a bit more time with my mum, she died from cancer two years ago. I only passed my driving test in November 2010 and I wished I'd been driving when she needed to go to all those appointments so I could have taken her. We can all say if only can't we?

● DO you keep fit and watch your diet?
I would like to do more exercise but I'm embarrassed, after three caesareans I have a jelly belly. My friends has got a Wii and I might do something like Zumba with her at home where no one else can see.

I don't eat red meat but apart from that I don't worry too much. I was diagnosed with my diabetes when I was 14 so I am used to it. I still eat things like chocolate, I just stay aware and act accordingly.

● WHAT is your philosophy of life?
I am a terrible worrier, I worry if I don't have something to worry about but I do believe we have only one chance and life is very short - watching my mum and things.

● HAVE you ever done something crazy?
No but I'd like to, I think it would be a real breath of fresh air. When we went on some of the fast rides at Euro Disney I came off with an incredible adrenaline rush.

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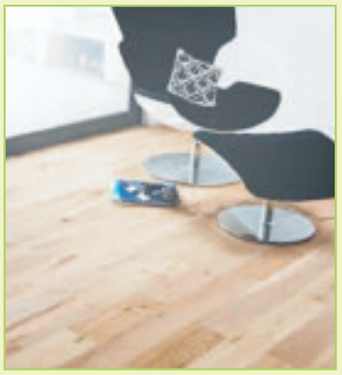

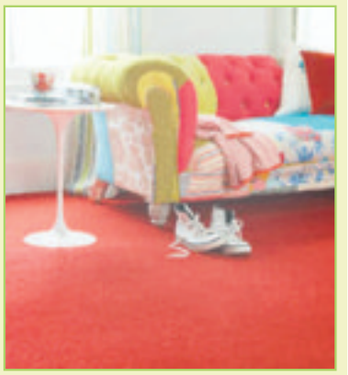

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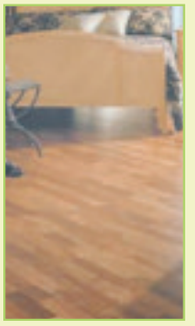

Declutter your living room in five easy steps!

Everyone's living room can look like a bomb's hit it during the day, what with the TV on, Wii connected, and books and newspapers everywhere. But, come the evening, when you want some peace, a sophisticated living room can be yours with some simple storage ideas.

1. Tame the technology
Tired of having remote controls scattered across every surface and starting to think that your DVDs and games consoles are breeding? Invest in a TV cupboard with storage drawers to create a place for everything — and to make the TV less of a presence in the room.

2. Get shelving sorted
Putting up shelves is one of those so-called 'simple tasks' that never gets done, so make it easy on yourself and buy a good-looking unit instead. Open shelving is a versatile option for any room and great for displaying favourite things, but team it with a selection of pretty document holders and other boxes to hide away bits and bobs you don't want everyone to see.

3. Be imaginative with storage
Got a gorgeous storage box or chest tucked away in a bedroom or cupboard? Bring it out and reinvent it as a side table. You can fill it with books or toys, and it will give you a spot for a reading lamp, too.

4. Try a multipurpose coffee table
Coffee table not pulling its weight? Looking good isn't enough for this key piece, so consider swapping yours for one with a shelf or — even better — drawers for controlling clutter.

5. Buy boxes, baskets and bags
Look for boxes, baskets and bags in go-with-anything natural materials like rattan, jute and wicker. A stack of boxes filled with junk or a sturdy jute bag for magazines and newspapers will fill an unused corner and leave no excuse for littering the room with all your stuff.

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Tips to help you make over your front garden

1. Try classic topiary
Clipped shrubs such as box and bay look wonderful in front of homes with a formal facade. Topiary bushes aren't cheap, however — from around £80 for a pair of simple ball-shaped bushes to well over £200 for a pair of spiral designs. Water regularly, and consider chaining your pots to railings to ensure that opportunistic thieves don't make off with your precious plants. Trim plants in June and August for best results. Get into a routine of applying slow-release fertiliser granules every three months and repotting every two years. Get the look with artificial topiary bushes!

2. Add scented roses
Think of roses around a front door and a country cottage springs to mind, but there are varieties that can be used to enhance the front of almost any home. Consider practical details such as how sunny your spot is, how often you want to prune and if you want to deal with thorns, as well as your preference for colour and scent. Think about when you want flowers. Some roses have just one flush each year, while others bloom for months. Can't decide? Some roses start in one shade and mature to another — x odorata 'Mutablis' offers yellow, pink and crimson flowers all on one bush.

3. Lay a smart path
Keep soil and grass from being trekked into your hallway with a simple path, which can be an attractive feature in its own right. Use materials that suit your home — so if you have brick walls and a slate roof, consider using brick edging and slate paving. White pebbles or gravel will highlight your route as it gets dark, and the crunching underfoot with alert you to a visitor's arrival. You can lay new gravel (from £3 per bag) yourself if the path isn't too long, but you might need to get the professionals in to lay paving. If so, obtain three quotes for the work and expect to pay £20 to £60 per sq m.

4. Plant up a container
Deter thieves by choosing a large, heavy container that's difficult to move. Old troughs and Belfast sinks are inexpensive and look great. Plant up garden containers in situ, as they'll be even heavier when filled with compost. Position them near the house as you won't want to trek far with your watering can on hot days! Think bold for a container of this scale. Choose tall purple amaranthus or orange mimulus for the centre and nasturtium 'Empress of India' for the edges. Osteospermum is perfect for September planting as it blooms until the first frosts. Plant up window boxes in the same way, opting for low-growing varieties.

5. Put up a hanging basket
Save money by making up your own basket, rather than buying a ready-made one. Place the basket over a wastepaper bin to hold it securely in place while you work. Add a liner, compost and plenty of water-retaining gel crystals and slow-release fertiliser. Mix well and water to allow the crystals to swell. Opt for fast-growing hanging basket flowers, such as pink Surfinia petunias and white bacopa. They cost from 85p each, and you'll only need four per basket.
Hang in a sunny spot, water every day, and you should have a colourful show in around two or three weeks. Remove dead flowers frequently to encourage more to bloom.

BD GARDEN AND PET SUPPLIES

An Aladdin's cave of all manner of items for the garden

BRIAN DRURY has owned BD Garden and Pet Supplies for over twenty years. His shop is an Aladdin's cave of all manner of items for the garden, as well as food, toys and treats for your pets. A great range of bird nesting boxes are also available.

The shop is surprisingly large. Even some local Ilminster people are unaware that in addition to the front room of the shop, there is a courtyard and back rooms which stock seasonal bulbs, garden accessories and tools. You will also find seasonal plants and shrubs. Brian currently has a fantastic range spring bulbs, fifteen types of seed potatoes and onion sets. You can help our feathered friends in this cold weather with wild bird food, fat balls, as well as loose mix seeds and nuts.

Brian also stocks compost, garden ornaments, tools, fertilizer, flowerpots, weed killer, grass seed and much more. Bedding plants will be in stock from Easter.

Surprisingly, the shop has a room of toys, which are ideal for children's birthdays; as well as household goods, confectionary, and convenience food items.

Visit BD Garden and Pet Supplies for a unique shopping experience and a welcome change from the larger garden centres.

HOME ENERGY CENTRE

Keeping your home warmer and greener

FINDING WAYS to increase the comfort of your home is made simpler and quicker by the specialists at the Home Energy Centre in Ilminster's town centre in Ditton Street.

"It's easier when you know how and if you want the know-how come to the Centre to speak to friendly knowledgeable people" explains Jon Lewes, one of the founders of the Centre. "Our knowledgeable Associates can guide you through the options on energy-efficiency for your home, and on energy-generation as well and their advice is independent, impartial and free , provided by independent energy advisors !"

As well as being open daily 9-5, Saturdays 10-1, Open Afternoons are held every fortnight, on Tuesdays, at the Centre (from 4-7pm) when the Centre's specialists are there to answer enquiries and give an insight and the solutions to questions. Microgeneration consultant Jon Lewes co-founded the Home Energy Centre with environmentalist Allison Jarman in order to "provide an easily-accessible town centre focus point to provide reliable, independent advice in a friendly atmosphere, rather like the friendly service provided by High Street travel agents, with no obligations to buy and with options as to which steps to take. Details can be browsed of local suppliers of products and services, with advice and information at hand as needed."

The Centre has a permanent showroom, with items on display ranging from solar pv panels to examples of natural sheep-fleece roof insulation. It provides guidance on saving money around your home as well as how to tap into the money available from government schemes such as the Feed-In Tariff (FiT) and the Renewable Heat Initiative (RHI).

For those who are interested to know more about climate change and what we all need to do to reduce our carbon emissions, there is a display of images and information about the steps we each can take.

For more information:
01460 250986, 07518039458
info@localgen.org.uk

Weekender Homes and Gardens

RICHARD CHANT FLOORING

New venture at All Floors of Crewkerne

EXCITING NEWS here at All Floors of Crewkerne, we are offering a curtain and blind making service at the flooring shop, where you can select from over 300 colour co-ordinated fabrics to go with your new floor. Currently well known furnishing brands as Hardys, Style Furnishings, Gordon John Textiles and Simta are available.

All Floors of Crewkerne Ltd is the company name for Richard Chant Flooring which has been trading in Crewkerne for around 27 years.

We offer a wide range of floor coverings and flooring solutions including, carpets, ceramic tiles, wood, laminates and engineered boards, sheet vinyl, vinyl tiles, cork and marmoleum.

We pride ourselves on working with customers to understand their flooring needs and offer up the right flooring solution.

Window Dressing is the name of the new venture with Richard and April Chant assuring you of their personal attention at all times.

April has over 30 years experience of sewing and making and offers a professional curtain and blind bespoke service. Most orders are made in the purpose built workshop at the back of the flooring shop by April and she is on hand to assist in finding the right window dressing for every situation. She offers advice on problem windows and doors to reduce heat loss or fading with the appropriate linings and interlinings as well as demonstrating alternative styles of curtains and blinds to assist in creating the desired look for your room.

Curtain Fabrics, poles and tracks are available to order with linings and sundries available to purchase from stock.

An exciting new development means that April can now offer any type of blind from Venetian and roller, to vertical, black out, and more.

This ensures that any window solution is catered for, made to measure, and complete to the highest spec.

ONE WORLD

One World, one destination for gifts from around the world

SOUTH PETHERTON is a picturesque village in Somerset with distinctive buildings made of Hamstone from nearby Hamhill. The village is a lovely place to visit and has all the shops you'll ever need.

One shop that has been a permanent face in the village and owned by Nancy McMillan for over sixteen years is One World.

This marvellous little shop carries a deceptively large amount of products, focusing on gifts from around the world.

Working with communities and suppliers the products are either Fairtrade or where possible, as fairly traded as they can be. There is a great selection of rugs, quilts, chairs, baskets, frames and lamps that would make a wonderful addition to any home. With a choice of products from Indonesia, Malaysia, Bolivia, and Nepal there really is something for everyone.

In addition the wonderful selection of homeware there are also toys, cards, and clothing for all ages.

This friendly shop offers a unique personal service with knowledge of the products, which comes from working closely with its suppliers for many years. So why not pay a visit to One World at 17 St James Street, South Petherton and see what you can find from around the world.

RICHARD CARBIN PLUMBING & HEATING

For all your plumbing and heating needs

RICHARD CARBIN Plumbing and Heating LTD is a local, family run based in Ilminster carrying out work anywhere in Somerset, Devon & Dorset. The company was established in 1984 by Richard Carbin, who has 40 years experience in the Plumbing & heating trade.

Richard Carbin Ltd is your local Worcester-Bosch accredited Installer meaning we specialise in Worcester products, and can also offer you FREE extended warranties.

Richard Carbin Ltd also offers a complete design and installation service for bathrooms, shower rooms, wet rooms & kitchens.

Our business philosophy is to provide a high quality service and products resulting in reliability for all of our customers. This is why so many of our customers come back to us year after year.

The company is owned and managed by Father & Son, Richard and Joe Carbin, who are backed by a team of friendly, highly skilled and experienced engineers.

Free 7-year warranty on All Worcester Boilers installed before 31st December 2011. Services We Provide:

- Gas, Oil, LPG Boiler Installations
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All Trades Covered: Plumbing; Heating; Building; Roofing; Tiling; Carpentry; Flooring & Electrical

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TM

WeekenderHomes

FREE EVERY WEEK WITH THE WEEKENDER

Issue 61 Friday, January 20 2012

Beautiful nearly new semi-detached house

A BEAUTIFULLY presented nearly new semi-detached house situated in a quiet cul-de-sac within the town centre of Ilminster.

The property has a sitting room with French doors to garden and a large under stairs storage space, kitchen fitted with a range of wall & base units and marble effect counter top, cloakroom, two double bedrooms with one of the bedroom having a large built-in cupboard, bathroom with a white suit comprising panelled bath with shower over and low level WC & pedestal wash hand basin, parking for one vehicle to the front of the property and also a visitor's parking space and a good sized rear garden enjoying wonderful countryside views.

This property is on the market for £149,000.

For more information please call Elder & Froy on 01460 259699

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RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS

Newton Poppleford £925 pcm (to include water charges)

A four bedroom property set in a quadrant on the outskirts of the village. Separate lounge and dining room, good family accommodation. Garage and off road parking. Private garden. Available mid February

01297 32879

Axminster £470 pcm

Ground floor flat recently refurbished to include fully fitted kitchenette, double bedroom with en-suite, French doors to enclosed rear garden with patio. Off road parking. Available January.

01297 32879

Axminster £525 pcm

A well presented first floor two bedroom apartment situated in a convenient town centre location.

Regret no DSS or Pets. Available end of February.

01297 32879

Axminster £675 pcm

A two bedroom coach house set in a popular residential area on the outskirts of Axminster. Benefiting from gas central heating, fitted kitchen, Garage, parking and small garden. Immaculate condition, available mid February.

01297 32879

Axminster £995 pcm

A substantial three bedroom Victorian terraced property set in the heart of Axminster. Benefitting from fully fitted kitchen and utility, ample storage space, ornate fireplaces. Large garden and off road parking. Available beginning of April, pets and children considered.

01297 32879

Axminster £625 pcm

A fully reburbished to a high specification, one bedroom annex in the desired location of Raymonds Hill. Fully fitted kitchen with appliances, furnished or unfurnished. Garden and off road parking. Available immediately. Rent to include all utilities except council tax.

01297 32879

Axminster £875 pcm

A three bedroom detached bungalow, in a sought after area, on the outskirts of Axminster. Light and airy rooms, front and rear gardens and a free standing garage. Available beginning of February, pets and children considered.

01297 32879

Lyme Regis £1495 pcm

An immaculate four bedroom property offering good family accommodation. Set in the desired location of Rocombe, with extensive views, parking and garage.

Available beginning of March.

01297 32879

Axminster £900 pcm

A superbly presented three bedroom bungalow set in the desired location of Raymonds Hill. Fully fitted kitchen, large conservatory, front and rear garden, off road parking and garage.

Available end of February.

01297 32879

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Elder&Froy

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ilminster@elderfroy.co.uk

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UNDER OFFER SIMILAR REQUIRED

ILMINSTER £72 500
TOWN CENTRE APARTMENT
First Floor Apartment for the Over 60's
Sitting Room - Kitchen/Dining Room
Bedroom - Bathroom - Communal
Courtyard - Parking Area
Ilminster Office 01460 259699

LET STR SIMILAR REQUIRED

ILMINSTER £425 PCM
GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT
Entrance Lobby - Entrance Hall
Sitting Room - Kitchen - Two Bedrooms
Rear Courtyard - Open Storage Area
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WE URGENTLY REQUIRE MORE PROPERTIES FOR SALE AND TO LET

LET STR SIMILAR REQUIRED

ILMINSTER £525 PCM
GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT
Hall - Sitting Room with Kitchen
Two Bedrooms - Bathroom
Rear Terrace - Two Parking Spaces
Ilminster Office 01460 259699

UNDER OFFER SIMILAR REQUIRED

ILMINSTER £195 000
AN EDWARDIAN TOWN HOUSE
Entrance Hall – Sitting Room – Dining Room – Kitchen Bathroom – Three Bedrooms – Loft – Front and Rear Gardens – Potential Parking
Ilminster Office 01460 259699

NEW

ILMINSTER £149 000
NEARLY NEW SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Entrance Hall – Cloakroom – Sitting/ Dining Room - Kitchen – Two Double Bedrooms – Bathroom – Off-Road Parking – Rear Garden
Ilminster Office 01460 259699

CREWKERNE £169 950
EXTENDED PERIOD COTTAGE
Sitting Room - Dining Room - Kitchen
Utility - Cloakroom – Three Bedrooms
Bathroom – Rear Garden – Roadside Parking
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

NEW

CREWKERNE £189 950
A TASTEFULLY RENOVATED COTTAGE
Entrance Hall – Sitting Room – Kitchen
Dining Room/Conservatory – Utility Room
Shower Room - Three Bedrooms
Bathroom – Front Garden – Rear Courtyard
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

CREWKERNE £195 000
DETACHED FAMILY HOME
Entrance Hall – Sitting Room - Dining Room
Kitchen – Cloakroom - Three Bedrooms
Night Storage Heaters Family Bathroom
Garage - Off Road Parking – Rear Garden
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

MISTERTON £199 950
DETACHED HOUSE BACK ONTO FIELDS
Sitting Room – Dining Room
Conservatory – Kitchen – Three Bedrooms
Master En-Suite – Bathroom
Garage – Parking – Gardens
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

NEW

HASELBURY PLUCKNETT £224 950
MODERN THATCHED COTTAGE
Hall - Cloakroom - Sitting/Dining Room - Kitchen - Conservatory
Three Bedrooms - Bathroom - Gated Driveway - Garage
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

BOWER HINTON £250 000
A SPACIOUS HAMSTONE COTTAGE
Hall – Sitting/Dining Room – Kitchen
Cloakroom – Two Bedrooms
En-Suite Shower – Bathroom – Large Loft
Detached Barn – Gardens
Ilminster Office 01460 259699

LOPEN £275 000
DETACHED HOUSE IN VILLAGE
Sitting Room - Kitchen/Dining Room
Cloakroom - Four Bedrooms
Gardens - Single Garage
Driveway - GFCH
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

NEW

MERRIOTT £299 950
A SPACIOUS CHALET BUNGALOW
Sitting Room – Conservatory - Kitchen / Breakfast Room - Master Bedroom - Dining Room/Bedroom Four - Bathroom - Two First Floor Bedrooms – Shower Room - Front, Side and Rear Gardens – Parking – Garage
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

CREWKERNE OIEO £325 000
SPACIOUS AND WELL APPOINTED
Sitting Room – Dining Room
Conservatory - Kitchen/Breakfast Room
Utility – Master En-Suite - Two Further Bedrooms – Bathroom – Gardens with Views – Double Garage
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

TO LET

CREWKERNE £495 PCM
TOWN CENTRE APARTMENT
Communal Entrance Hall - Sitting Room
Kitchen - Two Bedrooms - Bathroom
Rear Courtyard
Crewkerne office 01460 78900

TO LET

CREWKERNE £545 PCM
THREE STOREY TERRACED HOUSE
Hall – Two Reception Rooms - Kitchen
Three Bedrooms - Bathroom - GCH
DG – Rear Courtyard
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

TO LET

CREWKERNE £575 PCM
TWO BEDROOM BUNGALOW
Entrance Hall – Sitting Room - Kitchen
Two Bedrooms – Bathroom - Gas Fired Central Heating - Double Glazing - Front and Rear Gardens - Parking Space
Single Garage
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

LET STR SIMILAR REQUIRED

CREWKERNE £795 PCM
FOUR BEDROOM FAMILY HOME
Entrance Hall - Sitting Room
Dining Room - Kitchen - Four Bedrooms
Ensuite - Bathroom - Garden - Garage
Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

TO LET

CRICKET ST THOMAS £900 PCM
COTTAGE ON 1000 ACRE ESTATE
Hall/Study – Sitting Room – Kitchen/Dining Area - Three Bedrooms – En-Suite Bathroom - Family Bathroom – Parking
Enclosed Garden
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weekender life

arts & entertainment

Talk on the Fascinating World of Playing Cards

NEROCHE DFAS (Decorative and Fine Arts Society) will host a talk with Yasha Beresiner entitled 'The Fascinating World Of Playing Cards'.

Mr Beresiner is a lawyer and lecturer, a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards, and has written eleven books on aspects of collecting. He will talk about early playing cards, their origin, and the part certain packs have played in English history. He will also talk about the taxation of cards, and about modern packs which produce an optical illusion. He has a reputation as an amusing and authoritative speaker.

The talk takes place on Monday, February 6th at 2.30pm at Seavington's Millennium Hall, Water Street, Seavington St Mary, Nr Ilminster. Admission to non-members is £3. For more details call 01460 67779.

HOLDING ALL THE CARDS | Yasha Beresiner

Local Craft and Produce Market at Ilminster Arts Centre

ILMINSTER Arts Centre holds its regular Local Craft and Produce Market on the first Saturday of every month. Stalls vary but can include cards, jewellery, handmade textiles and knitwear, pottery, woodcraft, plants, and meat.

The markets at Ilminster Arts Centre are a great way to support local craft makers and food producers, and are a good place to find an unusual gift.

On Saturdays the Arts Centre's galleries and Craft Shop are open from 9.30am to 2.30pm and the Café 10am to 2pm, making Ilminster Arts Centre the perfect place to relax and enjoy a leisurely Saturday.

The next market takes place on Saturday, February 4th, with further markets on March 3rd and April 7th.

Entry is free to buyers, and stalls cost £12 for sellers (must be booked and paid for in advance). For more information or to book a stall please call the Box Office on: 01460 54973.

Book now for Valentine's Day

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in our contemporary restaurant that honours
the finest traditions of Italian cooking

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FENOCCHI'S
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Booking is essential.

Open daily from
6.30pm – 9.30pm

Reserve your table by calling
01460 3011 and quote FEN06

Stormy seas ahead for Sinbad

CLOVERLEAF Productions set sail from 7th – 11th February in Combe Village Hall with Sinbad The Sailor...his 8th Voyage.

Fearless Sinbad battles the powers of evil to rescue his Princess) and the fabulous Pearl of Peace, aided by a motley crew including Norma Snickers, Silly Sally and Tinbad the Tailor, Winbad the Whaler and Jinbad the Jailer!

Featuring old and new faces, this will be a celebration of fun and music to delight all the family. Tickets, costing £6 for adults and £4 for children, are on sale in Combe Post Office and shows in the week start at 7.30pm and on Saturday at 2.30 and 6.30pm.

The picture features some of the glamorous belly dancers gathered around a picture of Sinbad – played by Abbie Dunn.

You can read *The* **WEEKENDER** online every week at www.the-weekender.co.uk

Ferne

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Just a sample of our

NEW WINTER WARMER MENU

Fresh Homemade Soup, Warm Baked Roll & Butter £4.95

Veg Pie Wedge with Chips, Peas & Gravy £6.20

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Try our NEW Pancakes

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Special Offer

Hot Drink and a Toasted Teacake only £2.00

Senior Citizens Days– Tuesday & Thursday

FREE Dessert with every main meal

Enjoy a winter walk around the Sanctuary (tarmac paths) then warm up with lunch in the restaurant (open 10-4pm) 7 days a week

Ferne Animal Sanctuary, Chard, TA20 3DH Tel: 01460 65214

www.fernеanimalsanctuary.org

FOUR OF THE SEINE, BUT DIFFERENT

John Wurr

ILMINSTER Arts Centre is delighted to welcome back some of its most popular performers, this time appearing as The Riverboat Four. Mike Denham, Steve Graham, John Wurr and Eddie Edwards have all entertained audiences at the regular SpeakEasy sessions hosted by Mike Denham at the arts centre, and have often attracted capacity crowds.

Steve Graham formed The Riverboat Four a few years ago to entertain guests on a hotel barge cruising down the River Seine, and has since performed many times. The group comprises trumpet, piano, clarinet/sax and banjo all played in a vintage jazz style that incorporates ragtime, boogie woogie and popular melodies along with the usual stories and repartee.

Audiences will also be familiar with the four musicians from the groups Classic Jazz and The Sunset Café Stompers, but this will be one of the rare appearances by The Riverboat Four on dry land.

The performance takes place on Friday, February 10th at 8pm. Tickets cost £12, and a pre-show supper is available at 7pm for £9.50. For more details visit www.themeetinghouse.org.uk or call 01460 55783, and to book call the box office on 01460 54973.

Steve Graham and Mike Denham

Eddie Edwards

A big year for Harlequin Carnival Club

HARLEQUIN Carnival Club are celebrating their 40th anniversary this year.

From humble beginnings back in 1972, the Harlequins have proved consecutively over the last four decades that they are the premier feature club on the South Somerset Circuit.

The last 40 years have seen many changes in the carnival world but for the Harlequins few will have come close to their challenge this year.

Due to the councils decision last year to sell off their local farms, Harlequin found themselves in search of a new home. After a long period of searching for the ideal new home they have now secured a local site to their home town of Ilminster, and are hoping to complete the move later this year subject to securing the necessary funds.

To help mark the construction of their new home Harlequin Carnival Club are asking businesses and individuals alike for their support by pledging money in return for a permanent memorial of thanks.

Harlequin are asking for a minimum donation of £25 to secure a 'brick in the wall' of their new building. Designed specifically to be displayed on an internal 'wall of honour' within the new Carnival shed, the brick will signify the donors contribution and support in building the new home of the Harlequin Carnival Club.

The permanent memorial could display the donors family name, company title or tribute to a loved one set in time by securing their very own piece of carnival history.

For more details and an application form please contact the club Treasurer Mr. Kevin Crabb on 01935 829618 or any other club member.

Brain Gym

No.153

SEVEN GREAT GAMES IN ONE! SEARCH: DAILY EXPRESS PUZZLES

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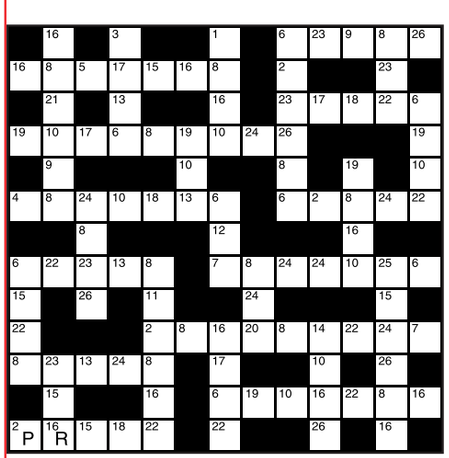
Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2 P	15
3	16 R
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
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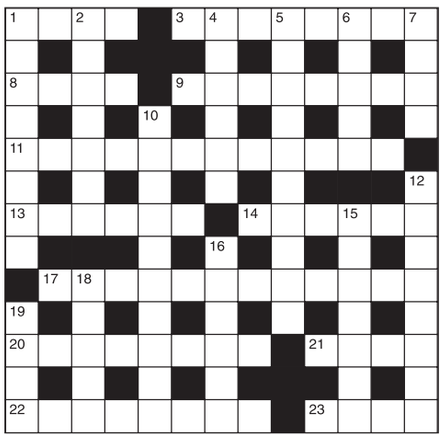
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
O	D	T	C	E	S	L	W	P	G	F	M	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
N	K	X	H	A	Q	B	V	Y	I	R	J	U

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. A short length of hose? (4)
3. He keeps the beastly company together (8)
8. To assign to a particular grade is offensive (4)
9. Those having guests around a long time as prisoners (8)
11. What the guard is doing - not losing time! (7,5)
13. Observe it once perhaps (6)
14. A translation of Proust will produce torpidity (6)
17. Fruit the corn-stalk covers up, we hear (12)
20. This should provide adequate cover for capital (8)
21. This may recount part of an oriental exploit (4)
22. Men of chivalry making a noise among friends (8)
23. Advanced before Easter (4)

Down

1. Taking industrial action is impressive (8)
2. A hundred on trial question the verdict (7)
4. A piece of garden ought to be sufficient (6)
5. They take away the reputation of French farm equipment (10)
6. Is this performed with the aid of a spelling-book? (5)
7. Very necessary for one wishing not to lose the scent (4)
10. Diana's accused and acquitted (10)
12. Not on the wane (8)
15. He has received no commission, but it's not generally known (7)
16. Get the boat reconstructed at home (6)
18. Drag along the track (5)
19. Chastise this pet - a dog (4)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Select (4)
3. Recommend (8)
8. Identical (4)
9. Monotony (8)
11. Unlawful (12)
13. Great comfort (6)
14. Evade (6)
17. Foreboding (12)
20. First (8)
21. Renown (4)
22. Led (8)
23. Tidings (4)

Down

1. Perhaps (8)
2. Intricate (7)
4. Cross out (6)
5. Sanguine (10)
6. Watchful (5)
7. Simple (4)
10. Quarrelsome (10)
12. Uneasy (8)
15. Mean (7)
16. Mad (6)
18. Lift (5)
19. Ostentation (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Hard and fast; 9 Minimum; 10 Credo; 11 Loyal; 12 Untried; 13 Chaise; 15 Lay low; 18 Airways; 20 Rupee; 22 Gable; 23 Incense; 24 Straightway. Down: 2 Annoy; 3 Dimples; 4 Nimbus; 5 Facet; 6 Special; 7 Small charge; 8 Roadsweeper; 14 Acrobat; 16 Apricot; 17 Asking; 19 Arena; 21 Panda. QUICK - Across: 1 Catastrophe; 9 Fragile; 10 Cargo; 11 Event; 12 Largess; 13 Assert; 15 Gifted; 18 Holiday; 20 Sugar; 22 Limit; 23 Transit; 24 Information. Down: 2 Abate; 3 Aviator; 4 Treble; 5 Occur; 6 Harvest; 7 After a while; 8 Considerate; 14 Solomon; 16 Instant; 17 System; 19 Ditto; 21 Gusto.

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

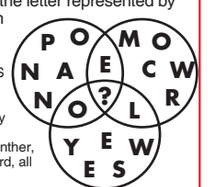
				1	7			5
8		4	6			7		
	7	3	9					2
	9				1	4		
	6	1		8		2	5	
		5	7				3	
6					4	5	9	
		2		9	6			8
	3						2	

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

9	6	2	4	7	3	8	1	5
5	3	1	2	6	8	4	7	9
4	8	7	1	5	9	2	3	6
7	5	4	6	8	1	3	9	2
2	1	6	9	3	4	7	5	8
3	9	8	5	2	7	6	4	1
8	2	3	7	9	5	1	6	4
6	4	9	3	1	2	5	8	7
1	7	5	8	4	6	9	2	3

Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: The letter represented by the question mark is R. Panther, caracal, leopard, all wild cats.

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WORD PUZZLER
WORD SEARCH
NUMBER CRUNCH

SEARCH: DAILY EXPRESS PUZZLES On the iPhone, iPod Touch & iPad

weekenderlife

weekenderlife DIARY DATES

FRIDAY 29TH & SATURDAY JANUARY 28TH
CREWKERNE: CUDOS presents the pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty' at Victoria Hall. Performances at 7:30pm nightly, matinee at 2:30pm on Saturday. For tickets call 01460 74380 or go to the Community Office in Crewkerne.

FRIDAY JANUARY 27TH
TATWORTH: Film: 'Jane Eyre' at the Memorial Hall, from 8pm (doors open 7:15pm). Organised by T&F Movies. For more details call 01460 220198.
ILMINSTER: The Barrow Boys' Cockney Sing-A-Long with Wayne Adams & Pearlykingjim at The Shrubbery Hotel from 7:30pm. Tickets £15 to include a fish and chip supper, available by call 01823 413430 or 01460 54007. In aid of St Margaret's Hospice. Organised by the Rotary Club of Ilminster.

SATURDAY JANUARY 28TH
MISTERTON: Misterton Tennis Club Annual Wine and Wisdom Evening at the Village Hall at 7:30pm. Teams of up to 6 individuals will be allocated to a team if possible. Ploughman's supper, cash bar. Entrance fee £5 per person. Names to Chris Ellis on 01460 74368.
MERRIOTT: New To You Sale in the Tithe Barn, from 10am-11:30am. Clothes, books, toys, bric-a-brac, tea and coffee. In aid of church funds. Telephone 01460 72704

SUNDAY JANUARY 29TH
CREWKERNE: Crewkerne Lurcher and Terrier Winter Coursing Event at Station Road (TA18 8AL). Simulated coursing to start at 9.30am, with straight racing for lurchers and terriers to follow. Winners to qualify for the NRLC Racing Finals. £3 entry per dog for both coursing and straight racing. (Pre-entries required for coursing to be made calling or email - 07900190575 or zakthedingo@aol.com). Entry on the day £5. Hot buffet after racing at the Old Stagecoach Inn at £7 per head (booking required in advance). All profits split between NRLC and St Margaret's Hospice.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 1ST
MISTERTON: Coffee Morning at Misterton WI Hall, Middle Street. Enjoy a Coffee and scone for £1, and chat amongst friends. Bring and Buy Stall. Everybody welcome. Call 01460 74808 for info.
CLAPTON: Sew, Knit & Natter at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall from 10.30am. All welcome, details from 01460 72837

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2ND
CLAPTON: Clapton & Wayford Film Society showing 'Four Lions' in the village hall. Doors open and tea/coffee & biscuits on sale from 7.30pm. Film starts at 8pm prompt. New members always welcome. For more details call 01460 74849.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2ND - SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4TH
CHARD: Chard Amateur Theatre Society (CATS) present 'Beauty & the Beast'. Evening performances are at 7.30pm with a matinee performance on the Saturday at 3pm. Tickets will go on sale at Barrons, Holyrood Street priced: Concessions (under 14 years & over 60 senior) £5; Adult £7 (stalls) £7.50 (balcony) and £8 (tier). For more information please phone 01460 65062.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4TH
MISTERTON: Table Top Sale at Misterton WI Hall, Middle Street, from 10am-1:30pm. Variety of stalls including bric-a-brac, home bake, clothing, household items, make up, etc. Tables £6. Soup, sandwiches/light refreshments available. Free entry and on road parking. Proceeds to Multiple Sclerosis Society. Call 01460 271393 for more information.
CLAPTON: Quiz and Supper evening at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall from 7pm. All welcome, prize for winning team. Bar, raffle, entrance £7 including hot supper. Always popular, so please book in advance on 01460 75380

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5TH
CREWKERNE: Dodgeball at the old sports hall, Wadham School, from 2:30pm. £20 per team of five. Call 07922 181054 to register by January 22nd. New team very welcome. In aid of the British Heart Foundation.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7TH - SATURDAY 11TH
COMBE ST NICHOLAS: Cloverleaf Productions annual pantomime - 'Sinbad... his 8th voyage' in the village hall. 7.30pm Tuesday - Friday, 2.30pm & 6.30pm Saturday.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10TH
DONYATT: Heritage Theatre presents 'Anything Goes at the Village Hall, from 7pm for 7:30pm. Price £9 - includes two course supper during interval. Bar. Join us for an evening of fun with songs, words and music. Organised by Hall Committee for Hall Improvement Fund. Telephone 01460 53879 for tickets / information.
CLAPTON: Luncheon Club at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall. Midday for 12.30pm start. All welcome, but please book your place by phoning 01460 77057.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11TH
HINTON ST GEORGE: Flix in the Stix presents 'Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (cert 15) at the Village Hall from 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 in advance from the Village Shop and Dorothy's Tea Room, or £5.50 on the door. For more details call 01460 72906.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12TH
CHARD: Concert at Chard Museum, High Street, by the Icknield String Quintet "Music for a Sunday Afternoon". 2.30 pm. Tickets £7.50 (includes tea and cake!) from Barrons, 2 Holyrood St Chard.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16TH
YEOVIL: A YCAA Café with popular radio 4 producer Cherry Cookson. In the Johnson Studio at the Octagon Theatre 7.30-9.30pm. Reserve your tickets (Full price £7) at the Box Office, 01935 422884 or pay at the door on the night. Bar available - nibbles provided.

You can email your Diary Dates to rob@pemedia.co.uk
Deadline 12noon Wednesday. Unfortunately we cannot accept ongoing entries without a list of dates

Text your event information to be added to our Diary Dates column by texting LME (space) DIARY2 (space) then your event info as you would like it to appear to 63333
TEXTS COST JUST 25p (plus your standard network charge) - please have the bill payer's permission

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How it works: Send us your diary date by texting **LME *(space)* DIARY2 *(space)* followed by details of your event** to 63333. By doing so you will have submitted your event to be published in the next available issue. Please note, you only need submit your diary date once; it will be published as many times as possible during the period leading up to your event.
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Going Out Film

This week's new releases

THE DESCENDANTS 15
WITH his wife Elizabeth (Patricia Hastie) on life support after a boating accident, Hawaiian land baron Matt King (George Clooney) takes his daughters on a trip from Oahu to Kauai to confront the young real estate broker who was having an affair with Elizabeth before her misfortune.

THE GREY 15
IN Alaska, an oil drilling team struggle to survive after a plane crash strands them in the wild. Hunting the humans are a pack of wolves who see them as intruders. Stars Liam Neeson, Joe Anderson, and Anne Openshaw.

INTRUDERS 15
A horror/thriller centered on the origin of the monsters that are born in childhood and are passed on by the family. Stars Clive Owen, Daniel Brühl and Kerry Fox.

LIKE CRAZY 12A
BRITISH college student Anna (Felicity Jones) falls for American student Jacob (Anton Yelchin), only to be separated from him when she's banned from the U.S. after overstaying her visa.

MERCENARIES 18
Andy Marlow (Robert Fucilla), an ex British S.A.S serviceman turned mercenary, is sent into the Balkans after a military coup has arisen to rescue a U.S ambassador and his aide. Also stars Billy Zane.

Forthcoming Events in Chard Guildhall

Every Sunday 10:30 am
FOREFRONT COMMUNITY CHURCH
Church Service - All welcome

Every Tuesday 9:30am, 11:30am, 5:30pm and 7:30pm
SLIMMING WORLD
Lose weight the extra easy way.
Come along and find out how

Every other Wednesday, next meeting 1st February
10:30am - 12:30pm
MEMORY CAFE
Friendly and informal gathering for information, support and social contact for people affected by dementia

Every Wednesday 7:30pm - 9:15pm
MEETING VOICES in the Town Hall
Song workshops for all "if you can speak you can sing"
Come and join us

Every Thursday, 9am - 2pm
ANTIQUES FAIR
Books, china, jewellery & much more
Now also available for Food and Craft stallholders
Customer admission free, refreshments and lunches available
For further information contact 01460 239 567

Every Thursday, 7:45 pm - 8:30 pm
ZUMBA FITNESS
Exciting latin moves
A fun based fitness party workout
For information call 07738 014409 or email zumbasom@hotmail.com

THURSDAYS 8am - 2pm
CAFÉ OPEN

Chard Amateur Theatre Society "**CATS**" present
"BEAUTY & THE BEAST"
Thursday 2nd, Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th February
Evening performances at 7.30pm
plus a Matinee performance also on the Saturday at 3.00pm
Tickets on sale Barrons

Saturday 11th February
10am - 11am
COUNCILLOR'S SURGERY

Saturday 11th February 2012 9am - 12:30pm
POPULAR FAYRE
Admission free, refreshments available

Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm
CHARD TOWN COUNCIL RECEPTION

We have many other events taking place.
For further details please contact
Chard Town Council, The Guildhall, Chard
Tel: 01460 239 567
WWW.CHARD.GOV.UK

CINEMA LISTINGS

Friday, January 27th - Thursday, February 2nd
ALL LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

YEOVIL CINEWORLD
Yeo Leisure Park, Old Station Rd
Tel: 0871 200 2000
www.cineworld.co.uk

War Horse 12A
Fri-Tue: 13.10, 14.10, 16.20, 17.20, 19.30, 20.30
Plus Sat & Sun: 11.00am
Wed & Thu: 13.10, 16.20, 19.30
Haywire 15
Daily: 14.00, 16.30, 19.10, 21.30
Plus Sat & Sun: 11.40am
Underworld: Awakening *in 3D* 18
Daily: 20.40
The Sitter 15
Daily: 19.00, 21.00
J. Edgar 15
Fri, Mon-Thu: 14.20
The Iron Lady 12A
Daily: 13.20, 18.50
The Artist PG
Daily: 12.30, 15.10, 17.40, 20.00
Mission: Impossible Ghost Protocol 12A
Daily: 15.50, 21.20
Sherlock Holmes: A Game Of Shadows 12A
Daily: 17.30, 20.20
Plus Sat & Sun: 11.30, 14.20
Chronicle 12A
Wed & Thu: 13.30, 15.20, 17.20, 19.20, 21.15
A Monster In Paris *in 2D* U
Daily: 16.00, 18.20
Plus Sat & Sun: 11.20am
A Monster In Paris *in 3D* U
Daily: 13.40
The Descendants 15
Daily: 12.50, 15.30, 18.10, 20.50
The Grey 15
Daily: 13.00, 15.40, 18.30, 21.10
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked U
Daily: 12.40, 14.40, 16.40
Plus Sat & Sun: 10.40am
Puss In Boots *in 2D* U
Sat & Sun: 11.50, 13.50
Dolphin Tale *in 2D* U
Sat: 10.10am
The Lion King *in 2D* U
Sat: 10.00am
A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventure *in 2D* U
Sat: 10.20am

TAUNTON ODEON
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www.odeon.co.uk

A Monster In Paris *in 2D* U
Fri-Mon, Wed & Thu: 16.15
Plus Sat & Sun 11.45am
A Monster In Paris *in 3D* U
Daily: 14.00, 18.30
Chronicle 12A
Wed & Thu: 14.45, 17.00, 19.15, 21.30
Happy Feet 2 *in 2D* U
Sat & Sun: 13.00
Hugo *in 3D* U
Sat: 11.15am
Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol 12A
Sat-Tue: 18.15
One Day 12A
Tue: 11.00am
Puss In Boots *in 2D* U
Sat & Sun: 11.00am
Puss In Boots *in 3D* U
Sat & Sun: 10.45, 12.45
Sherlock Holmes: A Game Of Shadows 12A
Fri-Tue: 15.30, 18.15, 21.00
Plus Mon, Tue: 12.45
Wed & Thu: 18.15, 21.00
The Descendants 15
Daily: 15.20, 18.00, 20.45
Plus Sat & Sun: 12.40
The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo 18
Fri-Tue: 20.50
The Grey 15
Daily: 13.00, 15.40, 18.20, 21.10
The Iron Lady 12A
Fri-Tue: 15.15, 17.45, 20.00
Plus Fri, Mon-Thu: 12.45
The Sitter 15
Fri, Sat, Mon-Thu: 13.45, 16.00, 21.20
Sun: 16.00, 21.20
War Horse 12A
Daily: 13.15, 14.15, 16.30, 17.20, 19.45, 20.30

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www.scottcinemas.co.uk

War Horse 12A Daily: 19.20, plus Sat & Sun: 15.45, Plus Wed: 14.30
Hugo *in 3D* U Sat & Sun: 13.00
I Don't Know How She Does It 12A Thu: 10.30am

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Smoked Duck Breast & Orange Salad
Slices of smoked duck with segments of fresh orange and raspberry vinaigrette

Compote of Salmon with Broccoli Cream
Chilled poached salmon topped with whipped broccoli cream served with melba toast

♥ Raspberry & Passion fruit Sorbet ♥

♥ Main Course Platter to Share ♥
Lobster Seafood Platter
A whole dressed lobster with garlic mayonnaise, crevettes, oysters, shell on prawns and green-lip mussels marinière served with crusty bread & salad

Chateaubriand
16 oz mature beef fillet steak cooked to your liking served with chunky chips, grilled vine tomatoes, field mushrooms, a mixed leaf salad, Peppercorn sauce or garlic butter

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Cost per person £149 icn, single room sup £5 per night,
Dept S/Mead School @ 10.30am

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JOHN LAW TRIO
Friday 27th January at 8pm
Tickets: £10. Pre-show Supper £9.50 at 7pm
John Law makes a welcome return, this time with his Art of Sound Trio, featuring Asaf Sirkis on drums and world-renowned Russian bassist Yuri Goloubev. They will be playing a mix of standards and original compositions, and incorporating a number of new and inventive sounds.

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An exhibition of work by Kay Lewis-Bell, winner of the Branston Spring Open 2011. With Barbara Whiteley (winner of the 3D award), Lynda Connelly (winner of the Mixed Media award), and Faye Edmundson (winner of the Visitors' Choice award).

Booking details: 01460 54973
www.themeetinghouse.org.uk
info@themeetinghouse.org.uk
East Street, Ilminster, Somerset. TA19 0AN.
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West 1 Youth Club (Tone) – Tue 7.30pm
East Chinnock Village Hall (Tone) – Wed 9.30am
Beaminster Town Hall – Wed 1.30pm
Misterton Village Hall – Thur 6.00pm

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weekenderjobs

PAYROLL & ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

Vaughan Lee House, the Residential Care Home built by the community is looking for people who are positive, supportive, hardworking and caring to join and enhance our committed team.
We have one Post for the primary task of Payroll and assisting with Accounts & projects as time permits. You will report directly to the Accounts Manager. This post is for one day per week initially but you will also cover for holiday absences. If you are; computer literate; familiar with Sage; enjoy working as a team and are confidential then we would love to hear from you.

WE ALSO HAVE RELIEF HEAD OF HOME AND RELIEF CARE POSITIONS AVAILABLE.

All job opportunities at Vaughan Lee House are subject to CRB & Pova clearance.
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Contact Randi Jeeps, Accounts Manager Vaughan Lee House, Orchard Vale, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 0EX , 01460 52077 for a job description and application or download from www.vaughanleehouse.co.uk

Deadline for submitting CV's and applications is 23rd January 2012.

RELIABLE SATURDAY PERSON REQUIRED

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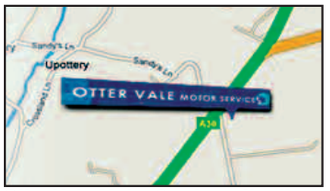

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2004/54 AUDI A6 1.9 TDi 130 SE, 5 Doors, Automatic, Estate, Diesel, 120,000 miles, Grey, 13 Months Warranty Included In Sale, Full Service History, Stunning Example, Two Previous Owners, Full MOT, Warranted Mileage, Full Heated Leather seats, Cruise control, Reverse parking aid, CD Multichange **£4,995**

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2005/05 SUZUKI JIMNY 1.3 02, 3 Doors, Manual, Soft-Top, Petrol, 29,000 Miles, Silver, MOT-10-2012, 13 Months Warranty Included In Sale, Full Service History, Stunning Vehicle, Road Tax Until October, Warranted Mileage, Radio/CD, Alloy Wheels, Ins Grp 7 .....**£4,995**

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INSIDE EDGE CRICKET CLUB NEWS

Cricketers gear-up for new season

CREWKERNE CC begin their preparation for the 2012 season by starting both youth and adult nets in the next week and are looking forward to welcoming both existing and new players to the net sessions.

The club are delighted to be able to announce that all of Crewkerne's adult and youth net sessions will be supported by Sam Garaway, a highly experienced, highly skilled Sky Sports Award winning UKCC Level 3 Coach who will lead the net sessions which are guaranteed to make a real difference in improving all of the attendees abilities.

The club will be playing its league cricket on Saturday's in Dorset League Division 5 (North-West) owing to a regionalisation of the Dorset League structure.

The club finished second in the Dorset League Division 7 last year, primarily thanks to a tremendous run of seven straight victories towards the end of the season, which resulted in a second successive promotion for the Henhayes-based club.

The club's Friendly Sunday side will also continue to operate with fixtures all the way through from mid-April to mid-September.

Adult nets start on Monday, February 6th (8-9pm) and will run every Monday through until early April at the old Wadaham Sports Hall, Wadham School in Crewkerne, fees are £3 a session.

For more information on adult nets you can contact Hamish Hodder 07890 176474 or Ashley Lawrence 07595 621091.

The new season also sees the return of youth cricket to Crewkerne after an absence of several years.

The club has entered teams into both the Under 14s and the Under 10s age groups in the Mid-Wessex Youth League.

Under 14s nets will be on a Friday night starting on Friday, February 3rd (6-7pm) at the old Wadham Sports Hall, Wadham School in Crewkerne. fees are £2 a session.

The Under 10s nets will start two weeks later on Friday, February 17th, again between 6-7pm at the same location, fees are £2 a session. Both sessions will run until early April

For more information on the youth net sessionsplease can contact Richard Keylock for the Under 14s 07932 555607 and Francis Medley for the Under 10s on 07825 935054 or Hamish Hodder 07890 176474.

New season brings a new skipper for North Perrott Cricket Club

THE only way is Essex for the new skipper of North Perrott Cricket Club's first XI.

Gordon Whorlow has recently moved to the area from Essex where last season he played Premier League cricket for Buckhurst Hill and has also appeared for Essex 2nd XI and the representative British Universities team.

Ben Dickinson and Lee Grant are taking over responsibility for running the Sunday side, but the club is still looking to appoint a skipper of the 2nd XI.

Indoor nets start from Sunday, February 12th as the club gears up for the new season that should include the usual 80+ games at the Willis Lane ground.

It will be another busy season off the pitch, too, with another beer and cider festival, the village fete and the Queen's diamond jubilee celebrations.

More volunteers are needed on the three main committees – Executive, Cricket and Facilities.

If anyone feels they can help, please contact chairman John Hammond by phone on 01460 271024 or by email on johnhammond99@gmail.com.

Waites the star in Chard win

SIDMOUTH B 1 CHARD 2ND XI 5

IAN Waite, who played so big a role in securing Chard a win in the reversematch at Holyrood last October, was back to torment Sidmouth once again. Waite scored two and made two more as Chard leap-frogged the Seasiders in the Davis Wood League.

From Chard's first penalty corner Waite's shot was parried, but Lee Slade was on hand to poach the opening goal. Before the quarter hour, Waite crossed for Josh Dean to slot home number two. When Justin Green was denied a third only by the goalpost but Sidmouth then reduced the arrears from a penalty corner. From that point on, Chard's defence had to work its hardest to stem Sidmouth's momentum, Kyle Wheaton being outstanding with the timing of some of his interceptions and Green making important saves.

The start of the second-half brought what proved to be the vital score of the game. Waite evaded a couple ofchallenges and fired home an angled shot. Waite put the result beyond doubt with another superb shot from just inside the D.

Sidmouth's frustration began to show. One of their forwards was sin-binned and, with the temporary man advantage , Chard broke swiftly Justin Green rounded-off the scoring

◆ *Match sponsor: Top Togs*

JACK HIGH BOWLS CLUB NEWS

CHARD *with Penny Herrick*

IN order to dispel incorrect rumours circulating, it is with pleasure that Chard Bowling Club wishes to announce that it has joined the newly-formed Wessex Mixed Triples League and is looking forward to playing bowlers from Gillingham, Sherborne, Yeovil, Wincanton, Queen Camel, Eastover Park, Donyatt and Ilminster in the season starting in April.

Chard's bowlers will also be sporting new shirts with the club's colours, thanks to Oriental Aroma Chinese Restaurant and Country Butchers, both in Holyrood Street, who have sponsored the garments. Chard Bowling Club is extremely grateful to them.

Any new members wishing to play bowls at Chard Bowling Club from 1st April can now join FREE OF CHARGE for the first year.

Meanwhile, Six teams did battle in the Milford & Dormor Afternoon Triples League. Results; Canaries 8 Westway 20, East Coker 10 Hurricanes 9, Greyhounds 8 Harlequins 11.

ILMINSTER DUO IN NATIONAL FINALS

BRIAN McCoombe and Rowland Garland will represent Ilminster in the National over 60s Pairs at Melton Mowbray on the February 28th after winning the area finals 19-18 against Taunton Bowls Club *writes Des Maull*.

In the Ladies section Lyn Williams lost 21-17 in a very close game against Taunton Deane, and a ladies Triple of June Checketts, Dot Whelan and Angie Watkins lost by two shots to Taunton Deane.

In the Top Club Ilminster men collected nine points against Yeovil . In the singles Peter Mattravers lost 21-16, In the fours Des Maull, Kevin Hamilton, Steve Turner and Mark Denslow lost 20-17.

At Ilminster Gerry Morris and Matt Hamilton won the pairs 22-12 Bill Anderson and Jason Miles and John Ridout won the triples 23-7.

On Sunday, Ilminster men played a friendly against Somerset under 25s.

Ilminster won on two rinks and lost on one. Ilminster team; Colin Osborne, Gary Riste, Dave Pugh and Brian Davis 23 Matt Hamilton 15. Don Horgan, Malcolm Norton, Martin Cornelius and A N Other 28 S Trent 17, Roy Orme, John Pemberton, Dave Cox and Kevin Hamilton 18 C Harrod 20.

Ilminster cut down leaders Weston

CHARD Town paid the penalty for failing to take their chances as they went down 2-1 at Hengrove Athletic and lost their seven-game unbeaten record in the process.

Sam Clark netted a late consolation for Chard after Liam Cleal had hit the woodwork with an earlier chance.

The Robins could have their work cut-out tomorrow to as they travel to Springfield, home of current title favourites Cadbury Heath.

Table (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gillingham Tn	23	15	3	5	60	37	48
Cadbury Heath	19	13	5	1	52	19	44
Melksham Utd	21	13	5	3	45	22	44
Calne Town	22	12	7	3	34	15	43
Bradford Town	24	10	7	7	48	29	37
CHARD TOWN	24	10	6	8	44	34	36
Keynsham Tn	24	9	9	6	36	31	36

SOMERSET LEAGUE

DIVISION ONE

A TRIO of first-half goals saw Ilminster Town reduce league leaders Weston St Johns lead at the top to just two points.

Top-scorer Alex Paul, his 14th of the season, Rich Hebditch and Jamie Green netted for the Blues who survived the predicted Weston fightback with their defence breached just once.

Ilminster still lying in third spot but with games in-hand, travel to Saltford tomorrow.

Table (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Weston St J	20	11	2	7	52	38	35
Larkhall Res	20	10	3	7	38	36	33
ILMINSTER	18	9	4	5	42	28	31
Brislington Res	17	9	4	4	37	26	31
Cleeve West	20	9	3	8	34	27	30
Purnells	19	8	5	6	40	32	29

DIVISION TWO (WEST)

■ **SAINT AGAIN:** Scott Wells-Burr is back with Combe St Nicholas

"PROBABLY two points dropped" was Combe manager Ivor Hutchings' assessment of his side's 1-1 draw with Creech St Michael in the local-derby at Hyde Lane.

Nick Bull headed the hosts, aided by the strong wind in the first-half, into a 1-0 interval lead.

Matt Brown earned the Saints a point, and a share of the top spot, on the hour.

Hutchings, without injured goalkeeper son Jason who succombed to a back injury, handed the gloves to Scott Wells-Burr who has returned to the club after a short spell with Sherborne Town.

The Saints are without a game tomorrow but may opt to give runouts to Shaun Wells-Burr and Adam Barrett in the Reserves' Perry Street league Challenge Cup quarter-Final at Lyme Regis.

Table (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wrington Red	15	10	2	3	42	15	32
COMBE St NIC	16	10	2	4	35	21	32
Banwell	14	10	1	3	38	22	31
Churchill Club	15	8	4	3	37	21	28
Wells City Res	15	7	4	4	28	23	25

DEVON & EXETER LEAGUE

DIVISION TWO

CHARD Town Reserves were held to a 0-0 draw by Honiton Town who have developed into one of the Division's form teams after a disasterous start to their campaign.

The Robins, without a goal in two games, should have their shooting boots on tomorrow when they entertain an Elmore side currently cast adrift at the foot of the table.

Table (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tiverton Res	13	12	1	0	51	12	37
CHARD RES	15	8	5	2	27	16	29
Westexe Rov	13	7	2	4	27	18	23
Topsham Town	13	7	1	5	42	22	22
Sidmouth Res	16	6	3	7	22	29	21
Broadclyst	16	5	5	6	30	32	20

ON THE SPOT...

WEEKENDER SPORT* puts Crewkerne Town's MATT BISGROVE *UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

Q How long have you been involved in local football? Who have you played for?

A I've been playing for 14 years. I started playing for Merriott Rovers at 15 then had a couple years at Crewkerne Town playing in the Somerset Senior League before an injury forced me to miss a couple seasons. I then had spells at Hinton and back at Merriott before returning to Crewkerne again.

Q Name the best three players you played alongside?

A **Hung Dang** - even after all his injuries, and playing with him at the end of his career, he was still a different class. **Dave John** - should of played a lot higher standard of football and still could, great vision and touch. **Chris Weale** - I was at the Yeovil Town School of Excellence with him - and even use to keep him out the team, I'm not sure what happened!

Q What is the best away ground you've played on?

A I played for Somerset at **Plymouth Argyle**'s Home Park. A lovely pitch and stadium. In the Perry Street League **Barrington** is always a great pitch to play on.

Q Do any games stick in your memory?

A Playing for Hinton we beat Chard Rangers 4-3 in the 2003-04 Tommy Tabberer Cup Final. Sadly our manager Shaun Cosgrove had died a few weeks before and the cup final was on his birthday, it was very emotional and we went on to win the league and another cup - so was hopefully a very fitting tribute to him.

Q How would you improve things at Crewkerne Town FC?

A Hopefully the building of a new sports club and changing rooms will be starting very soon so that will be very good for the club. We are working to start some new youth teams so that will hopefully benefit the football club in the long term.

Q Can you recommend some young players we should look out for in the future?

A **Grant Symes** – a very good centre-half, it won't be long until he's playing senior football. **George Cable** - still only 15 so can't sign for us yet, but he's got a great future ahead of him.

NEXT WEEK:
Drimpton's MARK BRUNT

SCRUM-DOWNRUGBY round-up

with Keith Jenkin

Chard blown away as fine run ends at blustery Barton Hill

OF the eight clubs in my patch, no less than seven had away games on Saturday last. The exception was Dorchester so I took myself off there to watch them play bottom of the table Blandford.

BARTON HILL 15 CHARD 14

CHARD played down the slope and against the gusting wind on a very heavy Barton Hill pitch, and enjoyed a pretty good start for, after some 10 minutes play, flanker Ryan Hellier got over for a try that Nicholls converted.

They did not however make the most of their opportunities as the half progressed and the home side, who were no mugs, reduced the arrears by kicking a penalty goal later in the half to take the score line to 3-7 at the halfway stage.

Chard had suffered through injury also, with full-back Elliott having to leave the field after just 10 minutes play.

Nevertheless, and although they were not playing badly, they were not as at home in the conditions as were the home side and they would have wished to be further ahead than they were at this stage.

This fact was confirmed when Barton Hill scored an unconverted try immediately on the resumption, and now led 8-7.

Momentum was certainly with the home side at this stage and they were winning the contest, territorially speaking, as well.

On the hour mark however Ben Stead and Neil Douglas combined to take play close to the home line before the move was checked.

The ball was recycled and a series of "pick and drives" ensued, that culminated in prop forward Hislop picking up and driving over. Nicholls converted this one also and Chard now led 14-8.

Barton Hill were far from done however. They continued to edge matters and eventually got over the visitors' line.

They kicked the all important conversion to complete the scoring and held out to notch the win in spite of what Chard could do.

This result would have come as a bit of a shock to Chard followers, but the general opinion is that the win went to the side that had coped with the prevailing conditions the better.

Fortunately for Chard, their nearest rivals, Old Centralians, also lost narrowly and the position at the top of the Western Counties League (North) remains unchanged, although third placed Matson have closed the gap on the two leaders.

CHARD 2nd 93 MARTOCK 0

THIS Somerset League division Two (South) encounter was as one sided as the score suggests with the home side scoring15 tries without a reply.

Terry Chard crossed the visitors' line on four occasions. Brett Hoare and Daniel Evans scored twice, and Robbie Walker, Chris King, Jason Wright, Sam Hoare, Billie Brooks, Max Gosden, and Stuart Gold also got on the score sheet.

Nine of the tries were converted, with Brett Hoare kicking seven, and Sam Hoare and Stuart Gold kicking one each.

Dave Biss, although he did not score, made a considerable contribution in the middle of the home front row.

It must have been a long afternoon for Martock.

SOMERTON 0 CREWKERNE 41

THE strong wind made monkeys out of throwers into line-outs, and made handling extremely difficult overall. The game contained many errors and little continuity.

Crewkerne came out on top decisively because of the domination that their pack achieved for the entire 80 minutes. They won the lion's share of possession and won the territorial game hands down.

In all they scored seven tries, with Nick Harris getting a couple and Gamion Woodcock, Chris Wall, Scott Johnson, Will Draper and Steve Hunter, one each.

Dan Godfrey converted three of them as Crewkerne set themselves up nicely for the clash with Chard in seven days' time.

PREVIEW

CHARD entertain BRISTOL HARLEQUINS on the last Saturday in January.

Their opponents, while blowing hot and cold this season, have certainly done enough to avoid a relegation place.

Chard won the earlier encounter in Bristol by 10 points and have, I think, improved since that time. Harlequins, for their part, have not shown anything to suggest that they will pose problems.

It is all about focus and mindset, both now and for the remainder of the season as far as Chard is concerned.

If those aspects are right, then I think that a bonus point win will be "done and dusted" by 4.30pm on Saturday afternoon.

It is important that Chard do pick up these bonus points for scoring four tries.

They could well be vital at the season's end, especially as their rivals are not particularly adept in this regard.

Chard had something of a wake up call last time out, and escaped from it with minimal damage to their promotion prospects. I'm sure that they will heed the warning!

CREWKERNE have a game and a half on their hands with the visit of CHARD 2nd. The Henhayes side, although I think that their hopes of a promotion place are now remote, can still influence the final league placings, and a win for them would certainly give their opponents a mountain to climb in their quest for top spot. This of course, is a local-derby and results of these games are notoriously difficult to predict.

I think that the visitors will pull away to win this one after a close game, with their overall pace finally telling against what is, after all, an emerging Crewkerne side.

Chard thirds will not look back on their earlier visit to opponents, Burnham on Sea seconds, with overmuch affection, having been rather badly cuffed there earlier in the piece.

If they want to inconvenience the leaders of their division they will have to start by winning this one, and they are just obstinate enough to do so.

They will have their hands full however for Burnham have only lost once in the league so far this season.

Tomorrow's fixtures:

Chard v Bristol Harlequins; Chard 2nd v Crewkerne; Chard 3rd v Burnham on Sea 2nd (away).

TRIBUTE WESTN N	Pd	Pts
CHARD	**16**	**69**
Old Centralians	16	65
Matson	17	61
Hornets	17	52*
Barton Hill	17	50
Burnham-on-Sea	17	49*
Keynsham	17	48
North Bristol	17	47
Cirencester	17	38
Bristol Harlequins	16	34
Whitehall	16	17
Yatton	17	17
Stroud	17	10
Gordon League	17	7

(* adjusted)

TRIBUTE SOM 2 (Sth)	Pd	Pts
N.Petherton II	15	70
CHARD II	**15**	**69**
CREWKERNE	**16**	**61**
Cheddar Valley	16	58
Minehead Barbar II	15	43
Somerton	15	31
Taunton III	16	31
Tor II	16	29*
Ivel Barbarians II	16	29
Wiveliscombe II	15	27*
Morganians	15	18
Bridgwater & Alb III	15	13*
Martock	15	5

(* adjusted)

TRIBUTE SOM 3 (Sth)	Pd	Pts
Burnham-on-Sea II	9	41
Wyvern	9	37
CHARD III	**7**	**28**
Wells III	9	27
Tor III	8	19
North Petherton III	9	15
Castle Cary II	9	14
Minehead Barbar III	9	8
Wellington III	9	-10*

(* adjusted)

skittlesround-up

Crewkerne League

Division 1	Pld	Pts
Lost Boys	12	107
Disney	12	107
Super Sexy Six	12	91
Head Hunters	12	86
The Fryers	12	80
Muddled Men	12	75
Coachmen	12	72
King Willy Dogs	12	66
Royal Oak Drimp	12	64
Football Club	12	41
Rug Rats	12	40
Rollers	12	35

Division 2	Pld	Pts
Concorde	11	81
Nomads	11	71
Pinbusters	11	70
Swan Fokkers	11	68
Skimmers	11	68
Raptors	11	66
Brewers Bees	11	65
Sports 92	11	62
Perrott Monkeys	11	60
Stray Cats	11	57
Loud & Proud	10	52

Division 3	Pld	Pts
Club Fixers	11	96
Merriott Men	11	87
Con Club Legnds	11	79
Muppets	11	77
Willy Low Flyers	11	72
Beer Leg Boys	11	67
Sandbaggers	11	60
Hung Like Horses	11	54
The Numpties	11	49
Kings Head B	11	41
Chis Colts	10	35

Ilminster League

CURRENT League standings going into second-half of the season.

Division A	Pld	Pts
Carnival Clingons	8	70
Royal Oak Faces	8	64
Hatch Beagles	8	57
Ashill Inn	8	55
Nomads	8	46
Flyings Turkeys	8	46
Bell & Crown	8	38
Royals	8	37
Cricketers	8	23

Division B	Pld	Pts
Ashill Boys	7	70
Rocky's Rollers	7	67
Bell A	7	54
Wyndham Clangers	7	48
King's Head	7	35
Wyndham Arms	7	48
Donyatt BC	7	18
Hatch Eggs	7	17

Send your tables, scores and results to: howard@pemedia.co.uk

■ **WINNER:** Neil Dopson (centre) pictured with members of the Flying Turkeys team.

LUKE TAKES STICKER UP TITLE : Sticker-ups (*pictured left*) from the teams throughout the Ilminster & District Mens Skittle League took part in their own competition last Thurday.

The League wished to thank the Flying Turkeys team who sponsored the Shield for the event, Dave at the Crown Inn use of the venue and for supplying the food.

The winner was Luke Dopson from the Ashill Inn team who hit 77, including a 25 spare.

Sponsors are being sought for next year's event to hopefully give R/Up and 3rd placed shields

If interested (team or individual) please contact Neil Dopson at www.Ilminster-skittles.co.uk

Mixed bag in busy week for Buckler

THERE were mixed fortunes for local trainer Bob Buckler's stable in what was a busy week with a third of his horses racing all over the country from Folkestone to Chepstow and Haydock Park *writes Stuart Broom*.

There were first wins since joining the stable for **Malin Head** and **Trenchant**, whilst **Ballyegan** ran another superb race to finish second, and **The Sawyer** once again showed his class in finishing fourth in the Grade 2 Peter Marsh Chase at Haydock.

Malin Head got the week off to a great start by winning the canterburyhorserescue.org Handicap Chase at Folkestone over 2 miles 5 furlongs on Tuesday.

Having disappointed in his three races over hurdles earlier in the season he was excellent in his first race over fences, leading from the start to the finish.

Head lad Giles Scott was elated by the performance."Chuffed to bits after that, it was absolutely fantastic. After the disappointment in his hurdle races, to see him do the job that he was bred for was fantastic.

I think it was worth travelling all the way to Folkestone to find the better ground where he looked a better horse. He led from start to finish, ears pricked and jumping impeccably and was eased down at the finish.

Trenchant recently joined the stable from Alan King's stable where he had an impressive record over hurdles having won four Grade 2 races and was rated at 149.

In his first race over fences at Chepstow he jumped well, but then lost his way a little at Wincanton before his switch.

He easily won the Class 5 Follow Us On Twitter At Lingfieldpark Beginners' Chase over 2½ miles as Buckler eased him back to winning ways.

"Another fantastic run. He's a quiet horse and produced a good clear round of jumping and won comfortably and will give him a boost. He ballooned a couple of the early fences but the further they went the better it got."

Ballyegan continued his impressive run of results including second in the Mandarin Chase at Newbury, when again finishing second behind favourite Nodoubtaboutit in the lingfieldpark.co.uk Novices' Handicap Chase over three miles.

The Sawyer once again showed what a good, consistent horse he is with fourth place in a fairly tough field that included ex Grand National winner Mon Mome.

Front running as usual he made a slight mistake at the sixth, but otherwise was impeccable in his jumping, before losing his place as the race quickened and finding himself in ninth place.

"I think the faster Haydock track compared to Ascot and Cheltenham was not to his advantage as the horses quickened, but he kept galloping at his one pace.

"As the race developed some of those that had gone past him tired and he repassed them with his relentless gallop. To finish fourth in a competitive race like the Peter Marsh is a very good result."

Another of the stable's best known characters **Double Dizzy** had a disappointing time at Wincanton where he finished well down the field in the Bathwick Tyres Salisbury Handicap Chase over 3 miles 1 furlong.

"Unlike Plumpton where he won last time out, this was a flat, fast track with sticky ground neither of which was to his liking."

It looked like **Saint Peray** might make it a double for the SCR syndicate when handily placed in the Roger Guest Memorial Handicap Chase over three miles at Chepstow on Friday.

Unfortunately he fell three from home as he started to make his challenge when he overjumped and landed steeply, depositing jockey Nathan Sweeney.

"Up until then he had been running and jumping well and could well have taken second place."

Newbury's Pashmina UK 'Junior' Standard Open NH Flat Race saw **La Madonnina** who finished sixth and **The Happy Warrior** (12th) face each other.

"La Madonnina ran a cracking race and was up just behind the leaders and although she couldn't go with their pace, some of whom are bred from ex-flat horses, she kept galloping and passed others. To finish sixth in a competitive race like that is very creditable.

"The Happy Warrior was disappointing following his previous races but did come back with a bit of a snotty nose and will have a rest now. He is a big, tall horse and still needs to grow into himself and develop."

Quix settled better than he has done in the past when finishing eight in the SIS Live Maiden Hurdle at Lingfield.

There was disappointment in Taunton's Betfair. For Better Odds Maiden Open NH Flat Race on Thursday with **Glenwood Present** and **Weld's Pride**.

Weld's Pride finished last on her debut to which Scott said: "She's better than that. I think it was too much of a shock for her."

STREET SCENE

HOWARD LARCOMBE
reporting on the Perry Street League

CONNOR'S COUPLE SEES MISSY HOME

THE day's top game went the way of the hosts as Misterton knocked Shepton Beauchamp out of the **Somerset Intermediate Cup** with a 3-1 win at Unity Lane.

Midfielder Connor Fletcher (2) and Ian Parker scored for Missy but it could have been so different had Kris Hastings and goalkeeper Andy Moody not both missed from the penalty spot.

Misterton's reward is a quarter-final at Bridgwater-based SRL Allsaints on February 18th.

◆ **Full quarter-final draw**; Middlezoy Rovers Res v Foome Town Sports, Clutton Res v Wells City 3rds, FC Sun Sports v Sampford Blues, SRL Allsaints v MISTERTON.

CUPS ROUND-UP

There was double cup heartache at Baker's Field on Saturday night with both Winsham and Winsham Reserves suffering cup defeat.

The Winsham first team went down 2-0 at South Petherton in the first round of the **Challenge Cup**.

Pethy certainly seem to have put their unusually rocky start behind them and have extended their unbeaten run to seven games thanks to goals from Adam Bourne and debutant Greg Howe.

Scotsman Howe is an interesting signing. "He's just moved to the village, but had a contract up in Scotland with Premier Division Dunfermline Athletic" said manager Gordon Childs.

◆ **Quarter-Final draw**; South Petherton v Perry Street, Crewkerne Town v Farway United, Lyme Regis v Combe Res, Beaminster v Ilminster Res.

WINSHAM United Reserves went down to goals from James Melhuish and Tom Melhuish (pen) as Forton Rangers Reserves booked a place in last eight of the **Bill Bailey Cup** with a 2-1 win.

There was one major shock and a couple of minor tremours in the **Daisy Hutchings Cup** last 16 ties.

The shock came at Oxleaze where West & Middle Chinnock Reserves knocked out Division Two mid-tablers Uplyme on penalties after a 2-2 draw.

After a goaless first-half, strikes from Mark Cawley and Ashley Cooper put the Chinnocks in command. But the Devonians battled back to force the extra-half-hour.

But the tie ultimately went the way of the hosts after they won the shoot-out 5-4.

An even bigger surprise looked possible at the Woodroffe school where Lyme Bantams of Division Four led Cup-holders and Division Two title-chasers South Petherton Reserves 1-0 after an hour. But from here normal service was resumed as Pethy cruised home 5-1 with Lee Caines on target against his old club.

Crewkerne Rangers, with Sam Harper scoring twice, tipped the Division Two table on it's head as they disposed of Chard Rangers 3-1 on their own Jocelyn Park.

It was a similar story at Netherbury where lowly Hawkchurch knocked out Waytown Hounds 2-1.

Elsewhere, Darren Dabinett scored twice as Dowlish & Donyatt eased to a 3-0 win at Drimpton.

Dowlish will play Luso-Chard in the last eight with the Portuguese side handed a walkover after Shepton Beauchamp failed to raise a side.

The Match at Harry's Field went with form as Barrington Reserves were thrashed 7-1 by hosts Millwey Rise Reserves.

The last eight line-up is completed by Misterton Reserves who booked their place after Ken Forbes scored twice in a 2-1 win at Hinton.

◆ **Quarter-Final draw**; *Dowlish & Donyatt v Luso-Chard, West & Middle Chinnock Res v South Petherton Res, Misterton Res v Hawkchurch United, Millwey Rise Res v Crewkerne Rangers.*

PREMIER DIVISION

THERE was a shock score line at Tatworth where Perry Street inflicted the biggest defeat on Farway United in exactly three years and jumped off the foot of the Premier Division table in the process.

The Mothers led through a strike from player-manager Ian Hilton at the break but it was one-way traffic after the restart as Ben Stevens (2), Jason Newbury (2), Kieran Bailey and Craig Studley joined the goal parade.

The Mothers place on the bottom rung was taken by West & Middle Chinnock who put in a gritty performance at second-placed Beaminster. The Chinnocks trailed 3-0 at the interval before Ollie Hutchings reduced the final arrears to 3-1.

Crewkerne Town's reaction to last week's horror show in the County cup was a 5-1 drubbing of Ilminster Reserves at Henhayes.

Ed Butcher moved up to 15 for the season with two of the goals. Adam Dawe, with his first ever double, and and veteran Pete Lemmey also scored for the Tigers' goals with top-scorer Mike Whitefield netting his seventh of the season for the well-beaten Blues.

DIVISION ONE

A LATE Taylor Jefferson strike couldn't save struggling Ilminster Colts as they went down 3-1 at home against Netherbury who won for the first time in seven outings.

DIVISION FOUR

ILMINSTER A took a giant step towards the Division Four title with a crucial 4-0 win at rivals Combe B. Paul Oliver, a long-range free-kick, Ben Brister, Kev Crouch and Tom Callow netted for the Blues who recorded their third clean sheet in a row.

Chard United Reserves also pouched three points and moved back up to second place but it was a much different story at Jocelyn Park.

United had to survive a second-half fightback from newboys Uplyme Reserves who battled back from 2-0 down to level before the hosts edged home 4-3 with Andy Contreras scoring twice.

But it's Thorncombe Reserves who look best placed to challenge Ilminster for the silverware.

The Thorns, now unbeaten in seven league games, beat Crewkerne Rangers Reserves 4-1 with player-manager Lee Hutchings and Paul Male both scoring twice.

JOHN FOWLER CUP FINAL

THERE was sure to be a new name engraved on the 39-year-old John Fowler Cup with Waytotown Hounds and Luso-Chard due to meet in last night's Final held under the floodlights at Bridport FC.

There will be report in next week's **Weekender.**

PREVIEW

TOMORROW brings four intriguing **Challenge Cup quarter-final** ties.

Form and history would indicate home wins at Henhayes, Lightgate Lane and the Davey Fort for Crewkerne, South Petherton and Lyme Regis respectively.

Although Crewkerne aren't quite the force they were at home at the start of the season their case is helped by Farway's poor away form which has yielded just one win in 10 on their travels.

South Petherton's recent improvement is mentioned above although opponents Perry Street will have been boosted by their 7-1 drubbing of Farway last Saturday.

Over in West Dorset Lyme Regis' superb record this season is well-documented. Allied to this the Seasiders entertain a Combe Reserves side, that despite being cup holders, shares (along with West & Middle Chinnock) the worst away record this season in the entire PSL.

It's also three years since the Saints beat Lyme, but with the first team having no game in the Somerset League manager Ashley Fussell maybe boosted by the inclusion of some eligible recruits - a possible shock on the cards?

The tie of the round could well be at at The Memorial Ground Beaminster where Ilminster Reserves are the visitors.

This one is too close to call despite Beaminster's lofty second-place in the Premier Division table.

It's also quarter-finals day in the Division Four-based **Kenny Hodges Cup**.

No doubt about the tie of the round. Jocelyn Park is the venue as Chard United Reserves will be gunning for revenge against Ilminster A after a 7-0 mauling in a surprisingly one-sided defeat in the recent league encounter at the Rec.

This one is likely to be closer with Ilminster still favourites to progress.

They will surley be joined by in-form Thorncombe Reserves who visit lowly Chard Rangers Reserves.

Meanwhile Crewkerne Rangers Reserves will need to record their first win since early November if they are to progress. The Rangers take on Farway United Reserves on the Seavington slope.

The other tie sees Hawkchurch Reserves travel to Lyme Bantams.

Back in the league Shepton Beauchamp's unbeaten **Division One** record could come under threat at Forton Rangers whilst Perry Street Reserves have the task of stopping the Millwey Rise machine which at the moment shows no sign of being halted.

Misterton have emerged as genuine promotion contenders with an impressive burst of seven straight wins. Manager Adge Diment takes his squad up to Barrington tomorrow and three more points could see them burst into the top two for the the first time this season.

At the other end of the table there's an early relegation six-pointer as Ilminster Colts visit Norton.

Defeat for the Colts would leave them cast adrift at the foot of the table. But Norton's continuing shortage of personnel could leave the door open for the Blues.

With Crewkerne Town Reserves inactive both Dowlish & Donyatt and South Petherton Reserves will be eyeing a return to the top spot in **Division Two**. Both have away fixtures with Dowlish, on paper, having the easier task when they travel to Unity Lane to take on lowly Misterton Reserves. South Petherton visit Thorncombe's Horseshoe Lane - never an easy ask.

Despite a poor run of two wins in seven games Chard Rangers are still in the promotion hunt. Darren Murphy and his side travel to unpredictable Uplyme tomorrow looking to complete a league double.

Down at the bottom Hinton will be aiming to move into the black in their points column with their first away win in 15 months when they travel to Pymore.

The top game in **Division Three** is at Harry's Field where top-of-the-table Chard United make the short trip to take on Millwey Rise Reserves.

With main title rivals Waytown Hounds without a game, the game gives Chard the opportunity to open a six-point gap at the top. There could be goals here- there have been 76 in the Rise's second-second string's nine games on their new pitch.

There's a mid-table calsh at Slades Cross where Combe A entertain a Winsham United Reserves outfit that is looking to improve on a poor run that has yielded just one win in eight matches.

There's still nothing between the bottom six teams - all of whom (except Hawkchurch - Ressies already in Division Four) could be facing the drop.

Of these, Drimpton entertain a Luso-Chard team who could be weary after their exploits in last night's John Fowler Cup Final.

Forton Rangers Reserves, unbeaten in three, are showing signs of improvement, and this could continue when they visit Hawkchurch United.

Finally Shepton Beauchamp Reserves will be hoping to be able to field a side for the visit of West & Middle Chinnock after failing to do so last weekend.

TOMORROW'S FIXTURES
(all 2pm unless stated)

CHALLENGE CUP QF
Beaminster v Ilminster Town Reserves
Crewkerne Town v Farway United
Lyme Regis v Combe Reserves
South Petherton v Perry Street

KEN HODGES CUP QF
Chard Ranger Res v Thorncombe Reserves
Chard United Reserves v Ilminster Town A
Crewk Rangers Res v Farway United Reserves
Lyme Regis Bantams v Hawkchurch Reserves

DIVISION ONE
Barrington v Misterton
Forton Rangers v Shepton Beauchamp
Netherbury v Lyme Regis Reserves
Norton Athletic v Ilminster Town Colts
Perry Street Reserves v Millwey Rise

DIVISION TWO
Misterton Reserves v Dowlish & Donyatt
Pymore v Hinton
Thorncombe v South Petherton Reserves
Uplyme v Chard Rangers

DIVISION THREE
Combe A v Winsham United Reserves
Drimpton v Luso-Chard
Hawkchurch v Forton Rangers Reserves
Millwey Rise Res v Chard United
Shepton Beauchamp Res v W & M Chinnock Res

Misterton Res

■ **IMPROVING:** Misterton Reserves will look to build on some better results when they entertain Dowlish & Donyatt tomorrow. Line-up, standing from left: Connor O'Keefe, Charlie Gudge, Matt Atkinson, Simon Knight, Adam Lamb (captain), Ali Caines, Sandy Veale, Paul Burkhardt (manager). Front: John Smith, Ash Doble, Joe Fischer, Ken Forbes, Dan Dominguez, Sam Somers, John Turner. *Photo by HOWARD LARCOMBE*

AS THEY STAND

PREMIER	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lyme Regis	12	12	0	0	62	14	36
Beaminster	13	9	2	2	34	14	29
Winsham Utd	13	8	2	3	37	24	26
Ilminster Res	10	6	2	2	21	17	20
Crewkerne	10	5	3	2	32	15	18
S Petherton	9	4	2	3	23	16	14
Combe Res	13	3	4	6	19	35	13
Farway United	12	3	1	8	25	35	10
Merriott Rovers	12	2	2	8	13	42	8
Perry Street	13	1	2	10	24	48	5
W&M Chinnock	12	1	2	10	19	49	5

DIV ONE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Shepton Beau	12	9	3	0	30	10	30
Forton Rangers	13	9	1	3	38	22	28
Millwey Rise	10	9	0	1	42	10	27
Misterton	12	8	2	2	30	20	26
Lyme Regis Res	13	7	1	5	22	29	22
Netherbury	14	6	1	7	34	33	19
Beaminster Res	12	3	2	7	25	29	11
Perry St Res	11	3	2	6	17	30	11
Barrington	11	2	1	8	19	25	7
Norton Athletic	13	2	1	10	16	41	7
Ilminster Colts	11	1	0	10	14	38	3

DIV TWO	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crewkerne Res	11	8	1	2	35	18	25
Dowlish & Don	14	7	4	3	41	28	25
S.Pethertn Res	10	7	2	1	41	20	23
Chard Rangers	12	6	4	2	30	23	22
Pymore	13	7	0	6	44	31	21
Thorncombe	12	6	2	4	35	29	20
Uplyme	13	5	4	4	46	27	19
Crewk Rangers	12	4	1	7	29	36	13
Charmouth	13	2	3	8	21	42	9
Misterton Res	11	2	3	6	23	45	9
Hinton	13	1	0	12	13	59	2*

DIV THREE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chard United	12	9	2	1	34	17	29
Waytown Hnds	12	8	2	2	39	20	26
W&M Chinn Rs	11	6	1	4	47	38	19
Millwey Res	12	5	3	4	42	36	18
Luso-Chard	12	5	1	6	35	31	16
Winsham Res	10	3	3	4	27	30	12
Combe A	9	3	3	3	24	27	12
Forton Res	11	3	3	5	25	44	12
Shepton Res	12	3	2	7	21	28	11
Hawkchurch	12	2	4	6	31	36	10
Drimpton	13	2	4	7	33	51	10

DIV FOUR	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ilminster A	12	9	1	2	51	15	28
Chard Utd Res	14	8	2	4	40	38	26
Thorncombe Rs	11	7	3	1	29	13	24
Combe B	12	7	2	3	36	19	23
Barrington Res	11	5	4	2	38	22	19
Farway Utd Res	11	5	4	2	29	19	19
Lyme Bantams	11	6	0	5	40	23	18
Crewk Rang Rs	13	4	1	8	37	43	13
Uplyme Res	14	4	1	9	25	69	13
Hawkchurch Rs	12	1	1	10	22	54	4
Chard Rang Res	13	1	1	11	20	52	4

(* = Points deducted)

leadingscorers

***Premier**: J.Bond (Lyme Regis) 24, R.Hebditch (Ilminster Town, 19 for S.Petherton) 19, Ad Caddy (Lyme Regis) 16.*
***Division One**: S.Dibling (Millwey Rise) 28, T.Emmett (Millwey Rise) 26, J.Hunter (Beaminster Res) 21 .*
***Division Two**: S.Packer (Thorncombe) 19, L.Mears (Dowlish & Donyatt) 15, G.Fowler (Uplyme) 13.*
***Division Three**: T.Menaldino (Waytown Hounds) 25, A.Cooper (W & M Chinnock Res)16, I.Costa (Luso-Chard) 13.*
***Division Four**: P.Peacock (Lyme Bantams) 26, B.Brister (Ilminster A) 12, G.Jenkins) Ilminster A), I.Banfield (Chard United Reserves) 11.*

The Windwhistle Inn

Cricket St. Thomas, Near Chard
Somerset, TA20 4DQ
01460 30229
info@windwhistleinn.co.uk
www.windwhistleinn.co.uk

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Monday - Saturday 11.30 AM TO 3 PM ~ 6.00 PM TO 11 PM

Food served Mon to Sat 12.00 to 2.30 pm - 6.00pm to 9.00pm extensive specials board and vegetarian options.

Carvery using only local fresh produce including pork, turkey and beef with all the trimmings.

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Also available a choice of homemade desserts

Sunday opening 12 to 10.30pm
Free Sunday quiz from 8.30 to 10pm

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ORANGERY FOR 45 PERSONS

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PLEASE BOOK YOUR TABLE
TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU.

The Windwhistle Inn

Valentines Disco

to include hot & cold buffet

11th February 2012
7pm onwards

£10.00
Admission
by ticket only

Happy Valentines Day

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